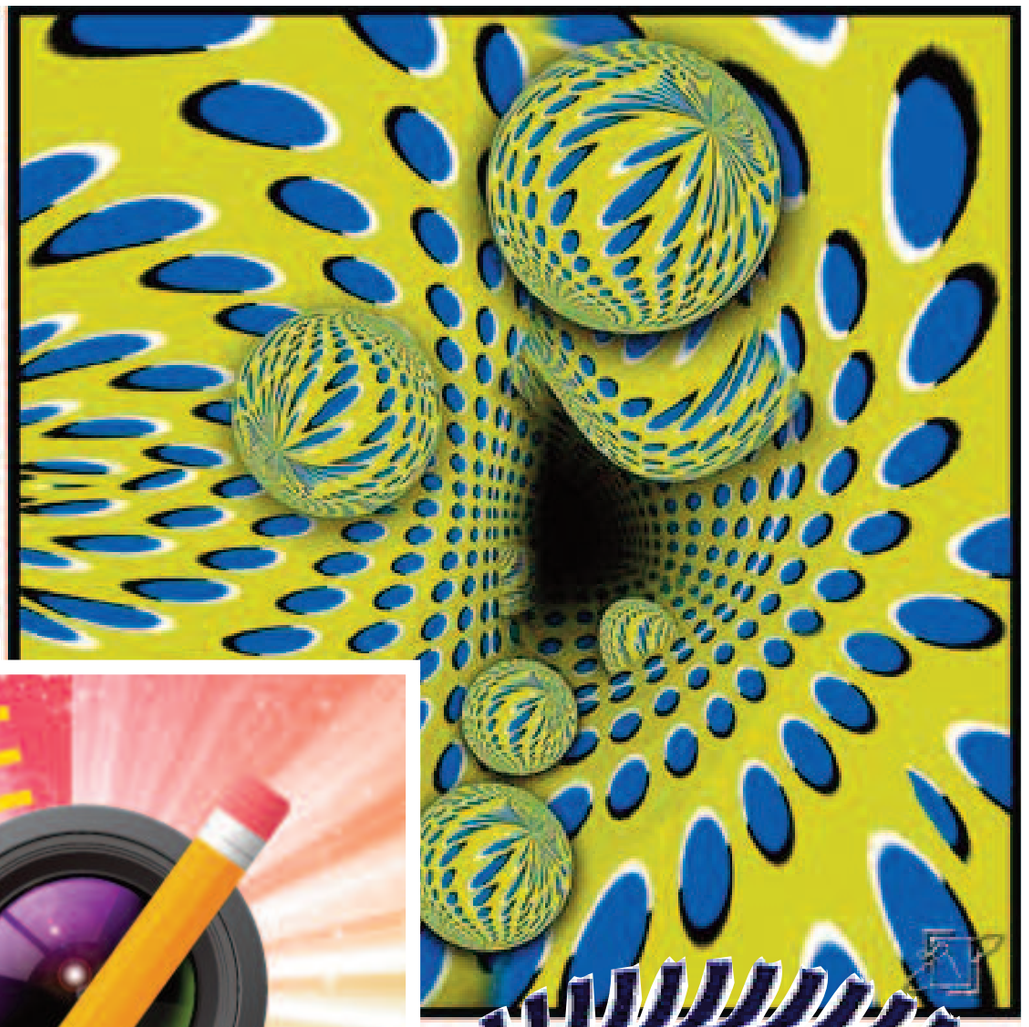
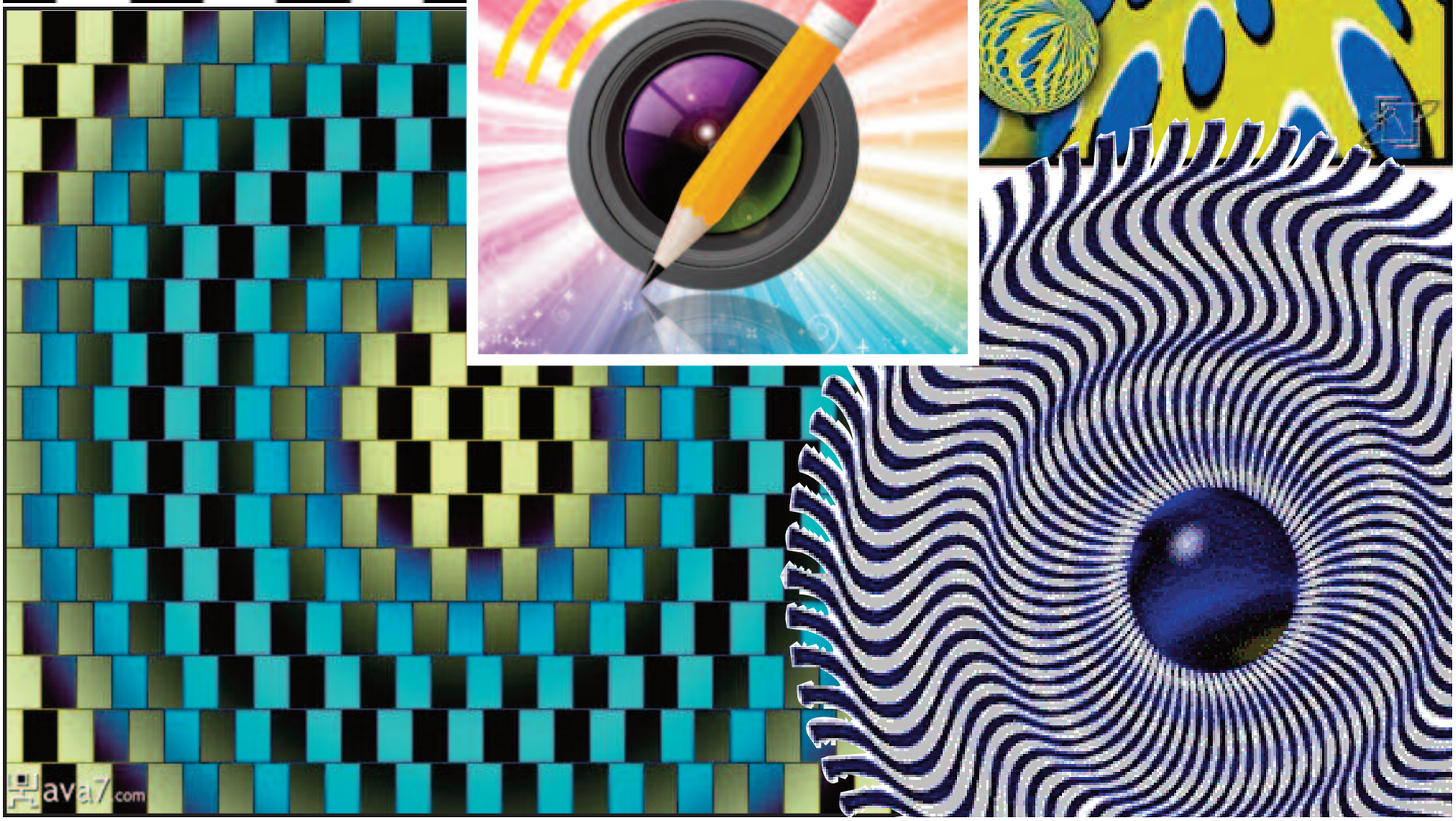
July 2009
DoubleClick





2009 MaUsE Executive

• Grand Wazoo: Michael Shaw
ducati860@gmail.com

• Vice President: Aaron Vegh
aaron@vegh.ca

• Apple Liaison: Bruce Cameron
rbcameron@rogers.com

• Treasurer: Stan Wild
stangwild@gmail.com

• Logistics: Chris Greaves
cgreaves@i-zoom.net

• Publicity Director: Jim Danabie

• Photographer: Irma Shaw

• DoubleClick Editor:
Michael Shaw
wazooster@gmail.com

• Secretary: Jeff Hurd

• Director: Guy Lafontaine
lafoguy@gmail.com

• Director: Marcel Dufresne

MaUsE Contact Information:
The MaUsE
c/o Stan Wild
58 Rothean Drive
Whitby, Ontario, Canada
L1P 1L5
www.mause.ca

From The Editor

What you are looking at is the July 2009 edition of the MaUsE DoubleClick, the online publication of the Macintosh Users East, (MaUsE), a motley collection of mostly harmless cranks who reside in Southern Ontario with their motley collection of old and new Macintosh computers.

The DoubleClick is published using a 2.8 GHz Aluminum iMac and QuarkXPress 8. An antique Kodak DX7590 is used for all pictures. Everything not specifically attributed to someone else can probably be blamed on the Editor. Back issues can be downloaded from the MaUsE website: < www.mause.ca >. Submissions from MaUsE Club members are almost always welcome.

Send your submissions and articles to me at < ducati860@gmail.com >, especially if there are files or pictures attached. I have never refused a submission yet. Because we care about the environment, the MaUsE DoubleClick is created using only recycled electrons: matter was neither created nor destroyed in the process of creating this issue. There are no infractions of the law of matter conservation. There is always room for another piece on any Mac-related topic and I'll make room if there isn't. I would like your submissions. But I won't beg.

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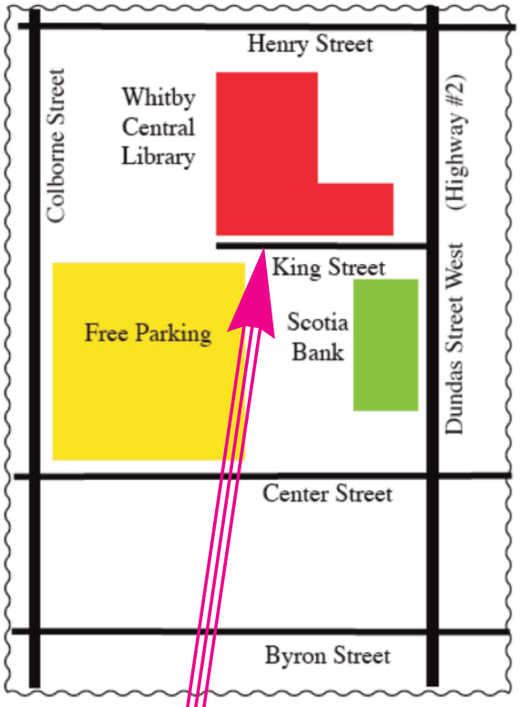
Michael Shaw, Editor

No Meeting This Month

Summertime and the living is easy. The fish are jumping and the cotton is high. The MaUsE will resume regular meetings in September after a two-month hiatus but the DoubleClick will continue through the summer months.



MaUsE Meetings are held in Room 1 at the new Whitby Public Library on the south-east corner of Henry and Dundas West in Whitby, Ontario. Meetings start at 7:00 PM but there is an early session from 6:30 for people who wish to discuss hardware or software issues or problems. Macintosh virus problem discussion from 6:58 to 7:00 PM. Meetings are open to the public and admission is free. Raffle tickets at MaUsE events are free but the free raffle tickets for Macintosh hardware or software will only be given to paid-up MaUsE Members. Please remember to bring your Membership card to every meeting. No Meeting this month.

MaUsE
Macintosh Users East

Photographic Composition Part 3*: Framing

Once you learn the guidelines, you will find that they will become part of your thinking when you are looking at the world, especially if you have a camera in your hand. What are these guidelines you ask, well I'll tell you.

There are six basic guidelines as follows:

1. Simplicity
2. Rule of Thirds
3. Lines
4. Balance
5. Framing
6. Mergers

The fifth guideline is Framing. I am not talking about what goes on a wall, but what objects are used to frame the center of interest. Framing is done by having something in the foreground that adds depth to the subject. Below are two examples of framing used to convey different messages about the same lighthouse.

In the first photo, the framing is done by the buildings and the tree branch. This gives a message about how tall the lighthouse is, by giving us a reference to objects on the ground. The tree branch helps pull our eye to the center of interest the lighthouse. The overhanging tree branch completes the frame, and adds depth to the shot.

In the second photo the tree branches help pull our eye to the center of interest the man who is on top of the lighthouse roof. Again the overhanging tree branch adds depth to the shot.

The last guideline we will look at is Mergers. No not corporate mergers but the merger of an object into the subject. In the group photo you see three trees growing out of the heads of your subjects, and one window frame. You would think that the photographer would have seen these things, but they didn't. That is because we see things in three dimensions, so it's easier then you might guess to focus our eyes on the principal subject only and not see the background at all. You can be sure the camera always sees mergers, so look for plain backgrounds before you pose your subject. Eventually you will get into the habit to automatically check your background for possible mergers.

Two other merger problems are border mergers where you cut off heads or feet of a subject. This is usually caused by poor alignment of the photographers eye and the view finder. With todays digital cameras you get this from using the display screen to frame your photo's. The other merger problem is near mergers which may not be quite so objectionable but can steal attention away from your main subject. Near mergers are when objects or lines are just too close to the principal subject.

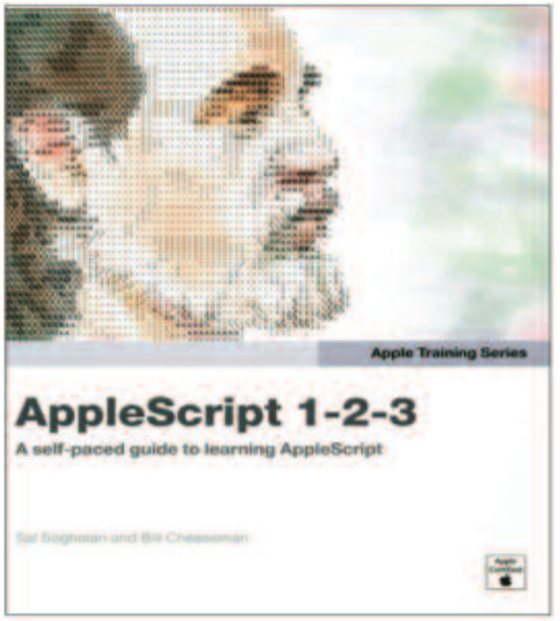
Now you know the principals for good composition. Take them and your camera and go forth to take lots of photos. With practice they will become second nature to you and you will enjoy seeing how good a photographer you really can be.

*This is the third in a series of articles. Parts 1 and 2 of this series appear in previous DoubleClick issues.

Submitted by **Kevin Livesey**

AppleScript 1-2-3

Article Submitted by **Marcel Dufresne**



Many of you have probably heard of AppleScript, about how it can make multiple processes a one click affair. But a programming language is a fearful thing for most of us. The best way to determine if you can handle it is to try out some examples. You can find these online or in books. AppleScript 1-2-3 is one of the best sources that can help explain what AppleScript is all about.

AppleScript is a language used to automate the actions of the Macintosh operating system and many of its applications. To automate the actions of applications, the computer reads the sequential instructions contained in an AppleScript script written by you, and then it communicates those instructions to targeted applications where the instructions are carried out. AppleScript is an English-like language containing many of the verbs, nouns, adjectives and articles that we use everyday. For instance, typing this instruction (tell the application "Finder" to get the name of the front Finder window) will give us the name of the top open window on the desktop. It is designed to be easily understandable, and the syntax and grammar are similar to those we use in normal sentences. The scripts are written in the Script Editor application, a free utility included with every copy of the Mac OS. The scripts are compiled in the editor to check for any syntax errors. Then they are ready to be run or saved for later use. They are thus available for use at any time from within any application. You launch the scripts by double-clicking their icons.

Thanks to many enthusiastic writers, you can find a whole host of books and Internet sites to help learn the basics of AppleScript quickly and easily. In no time at all you could be writing useful scripts after reading just the first few chapters. However, it won't take long before you will be wanting to write a script but not have the expertise to do it. To deal with this, you'll either need to spend a good deal of time camped out in the various AppleScript forums or spend some time with a real AppleScript master and learn the program from the ground up. In this case, the real master is one Sal Soghoian, the founder of the AppleScript Sourcebook Web site, which offers a most comprehensive training guide to the language. AppleScript 1-2-3 is written to help us get familiar with the ins and outs of this programming language. It is chock full of examples. The first chapter itself has over 50 sample scripts that you can input in the Script Editor and then run. It is a hands-on process, which is the best way to learn a new scripting language. The examples are very easy to follow and are often accompanied with screen shots of the result one should get from running the script. The authors often go to great lengths to provide clear, real-world examples to illustrate many of the more abstract concepts. Chapter one uses simple one line script sentences to allow us to become familiar with the Script Editor. After reading the first chapter I was able to automate a task that actually uses three aplications in order to work. Now I can do this with one double-click of the script I wrote. Chapter two shows us how to access the dictionary of words that is found in the script editor. AppleScript 1-2-3 shows us where this dictionary is located and explains the structure needed to understand what the dictionary is trying to show us. There are another 28 chapters, each with a main topic and a lot of script examples and screen shots. Included are charts of abbreviations, such as the special folder codes or a list of operators, that would take a long time to find if you were searching them out on your own. If you're totally new to the concept of programming a computer, don't be put off by the book's size and obvious depth. One of its greatest strengths is that it will take you from the point of not knowing how to program at all to understanding how to write programs well. This is true even for those of us who have done a bit of coding in the past.

You can get a brief look at the book by going to **www.peachpit.com**. There you can get a better description of the book, look at some other reviews and read a sample section of the text. One of the big advantages of buying this book through Peachpit Press is that when you register the book at their web site, you get access to all the scripts that are contained in the book. You can download all of the scripts so that they can be easily pasted into the Script Editor. These are quite short in the first few chapters, but as the training moves along, it is a real time saver to simply paste them in. Since you have registered the book at Peachpit, the scripts are always available to you on-line.

AppleScript 1-2-3 starts at square one and walks you through the process of understanding and writing AppleScript step by step, one concept at a time, until you find yourself suddenly creating powerful and useful automated solutions. The lessons in this book are based on the teaching experiences of hands-on classes. This book attempts to give us enough basic knowledge of scripting so that we can experiment with new ones on our own afterwards. No matter what your degree of expertise in writing code, AppleScript 1-2-3 will have something to teach you. If you want to learn AppleScript and possibly move on to more powerful programming tools later, it will give you the best possible foundation.

Title: AppleScript 1-2-3.
Authors: Sal Solghoian and Bill Cheeseman
Publisher: Peachpit Press (www.Peachpit.com)
Price: $49.99 Page Count : 879 pages,
ISBN : 978-0-321-14931-2

GenAudio Inc.'s AstoundSound Expander 2.1

Here is a program you are going to have to hear to believe! You can download a copy from **< www.astoundsound.net/expander.php >** and try it out for a month before deciding whether or not to buy it. AstoundSound Expander 2.1 costs US $39.95. (Apple liked it so much they listed it on their website as a Staff Pick and made **AstoundSound Expander 2.1** their featured audio download application).

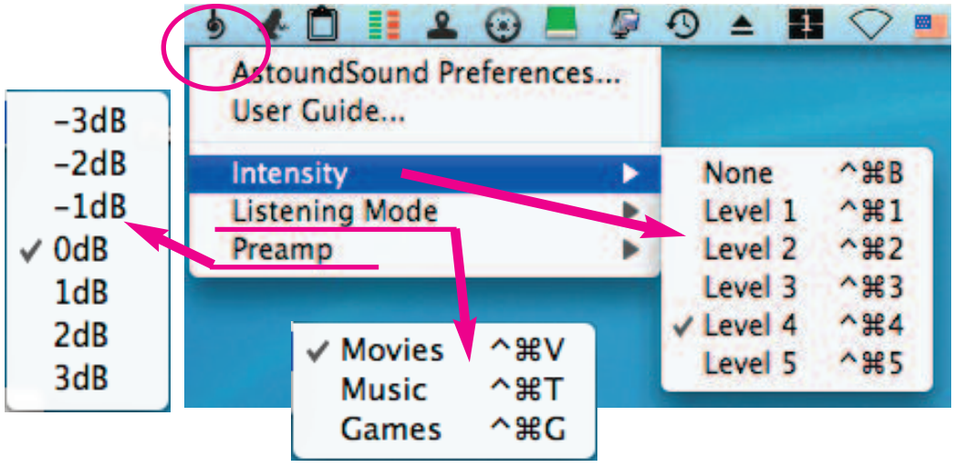
AstoundSound Expander 2.1 is a software application that runs on your Macintosh or PC. The software is always running in the background processing audio from all applications such as iTunes, Safari, DVD player, QuickTime and more. The audio is expanded in real-time and sent to the speakers, headphones, or other output device. It takes any stereo audio as input and produces a significantly wider stereo image while preserving center information (e.g. vocals or center staged instruments) in real time. **The result is a wider, fuller and richer listening experience that can be heard while playing music, movies, video games or any application that produces audio.** This sounds simple but the actual results can be amazing.

The application re-processes the stereo effect into a sphere of sound so that the various components of the music seem to be separated better and come from various discreet sources. The instruments stand out from each other and the texture of the music is richer and fuller.

If you compare mono to stereo you can hear the difference. Mono was just good enough until stereo came along and showed us what we had been missing. If you compare stereo to stereo enhanced with AstoundSound Expander 2.1 you will experience a similar revelation. It reminds me of improved quadraphonics but without the expensive hardware. You feel like you are surrounded by the sound with the music coming at you from all sides and from above. Going back to ordinary stereo feels like a loss of texture after listening to the same music with Expander 2.1. What is really amazing is that this effect is achieved purely with software and can be accomplished so well through a minimum of two speakers, with no additional hardware.

The Expander interface has controls that allow you to switch listening modes on demand, meaning you can adjust from settings that are made for music to settings for movies and to settings for games, each with its own slider.

After you install the AstoundSound Expander program you look for it in either the System Preferences panes, where is shows up in the “Other” list at the bottom of the Preferences window, or in the menu bar, where it appears as an icon. Clicking on the icon gives access to the AstoundSound Expander Preferences, the window here ar right. In the Preferences window you set keyboard shortcuts for all commands in the program, choose the audio output device, and set Preamp and Stereo Expansion. Listening Mode must be set for best results and Movies, Music and Games are the three modes available. All of the parameters can also be set by keyboard shortcuts and from the Intensity, Preamp and Listening Mode tabs in the pulldown menu.



No matter what I tell you about this program I cannot do justice to it. For that, you will have to listen to some samples of normal stereo and AstoundSound Expander 2.1 enhanced stereo recordings. Visit: < **http://astoundsound.net/** > to listen online to samples of various types of music by several professional recording artists and a sample from a recent movie soundtrack that show the difference between listening to the same audio with AstoundSound turned off and with AstoundSound turned on. These enhanced stereo recordings will help clarify a lot of what I have written here and are a very convincing argument for using the software for everything you listen to on your Mac.

Enhanced stereo is something that I enjoy a lot because many of the audio files I listen to are either comedy routines or vintage Firesign Theatre radio plays and live recordings of their stage performances. I have found that with a collection of similar male voices speaking their lines, combined with lots of outlandish sound effects and sporadic laughter and applause from a live audience, the exaggerated clarity of separated sound sources really helps to keep track of which of the characters is saying which lines.

The GenAudio corporation developed AstoundSound, a 4D sound localization technology intended for professional and consumer software and hardware integration with a variety of products for consumers and professional audio engineers. The 360-degree spherical sound field experience the program generates is changing how people everywhere listen to audio.

Go to: **< http://genaudioinc.com/download/ >** to download a sixty-second demo sound-studio recording of AstoundSound Expander in action and to download your own free 30-day trial copy of the program. If you decide to buy it the cost is only US $39.95. You will need to be running Leopard to use AstoundSound Expander 2.1.

FREE 30-DAY TRIAL FOR MAC
Macintosh System Requirements:
Leopard (10.5.1) or higher, 1 GHz Intel or PPC (G5) processor, 1GB RAM, Stereo audio output, internet access

Article by **Michael Shaw**

Global Delight Technologies : Voila !

Command Shift 3 or Command-Shift 4.... There is so much more to capturing what is on your Desktop than just using the Apple keyboard commands and we have looked at quite a few really excellent programs recently (including Screenium and iShowU) for doing just that. With **Voila 2.0.1**, from Global Delight Technologies we have the next step in screen capture. Voila was nominated in two categories for the prestigious 2009 Macworld Awards. The awards recognize the most innovative and successful products developed by the companies that produce for the Mac community. Voila was nominated for the prestigious Macworld Award in the Consumer Software category by the Macworld Editorial team and also received a nomination in the Readers Choice: Best Software category.

Voila is a unique, first-of-its kind **image capturing and annotating** tool on the Mac platform. It allows you to capture anything or everything on your desktop. With Voila you can grab right from your iSight camera or you could snap a whole webpage as well. You can capture, annotate and share the pictures with everyone. Voila is the first tool that offers complete freedom to capture any shape of your choice like Circular, Polygonal, Triangular or a Freehand capture. Apart from these, you have a Menu Capture,

Fullscreen Capture, Object Capture, Rectangular Capture and a Timed Capture as well. You can snap a whole web-page, regions of web-page or multiple DOM elements. You can also capture from built-in or external webcams. All your snaps will be managed with the built-in image Organizer, into Smart Collections like Smart Folders. Once you are done with snapping the images you can either export them to iPhoto or share them with anyone through Mail, Flickr or FTP.

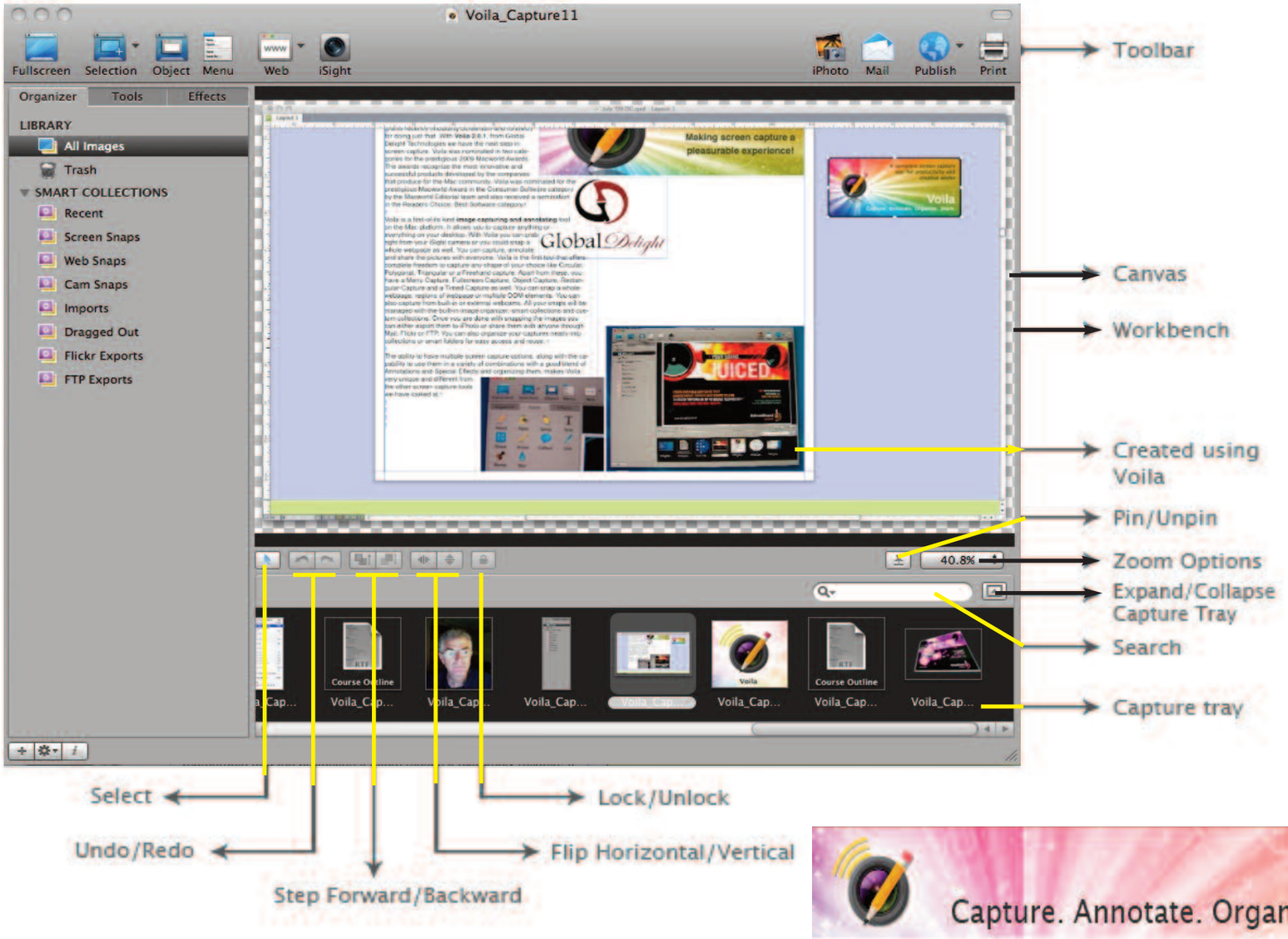
The ability to have multiple screen capture options, along with the capability to use them in a variety of combinations with a good blend of Annotations and Special Effects and the ability to automatically organize them makes Voila very special and different from the other screen capture tools we have looked at. **I can't begin to tell you how impressed I am with Voila.** A lot of very expensive and useful programs appear in the DoubleClick and receive less attention than Voila is getting in this issue. That's is because I think that Voila has the potential to be useful to more members of the MaUsE club than most of them.

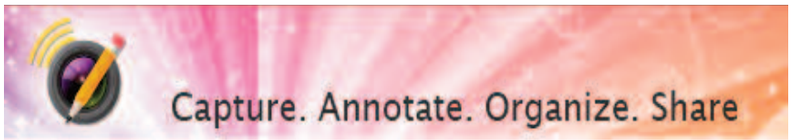
This program takes screen capture to new heights with a clear and intuitive interface combined with the ability to print on your captures in any font at any size and colour, draw on them, stamp them with labels and apply special effects:

• The **Tools** tab: provides Pencil, Paint, Spray, Text, Shape, Arrow, Callout, Line Stamp and Blur. Each tool has a little control panel of its own that opens when invoked that allows you to customise or control the tool.

• The **Effects** tab: gives the power to Skew, customise Edges, apply Filters, make colour Adjustments, and Crop. The program has every feature I could think of including (sensible and obvious) multiple undos and some that would never occur to me.

The Voila screen captures are kept together in any location of your choosing. Sensibly. the default location is in a folder called "Voila" in your Pictures Folder in your Home Folder. They are also shown in an expandable bin (Capture Tray) below the application's viewing window. **Capture images can be dragged right out of the tray and dropped onto the Desktop.** I found this to be a very convenient fea-





ture. The program keeps a record of the snaps that you have dragged out of the application tray onto the Desktop in a Smart Collections folder called Dragged Out. The other Smart Collections include: Recent snaps, Screen Snaps, Web Snaps, Cam Snaps, Imports, Flikr Exports, and FTP Exports. Clicking on each of these Smart Collection folders in the Organizer window automatically loads the contents of the Folder into the Capture Bin.

If you want to see Voila in action you have to download a copy of your own. It will appear as a 27-meg disk image on your Desktop. (We did get a copy to be used as a MaUsE raffle prize and it was pounced upon at the June MaUsE Meeting).

It will take a bit of time to learn all of the tricks but the time spent investigating the program interface is well worth it. Luckily for us the people at Global Delight have provided copies for all of us at their website at :

< **http://www.globaldelight.com/ >**.

And about the user manual: it is an excellent resource and available from the Help menu any time the program is open. It describes how to use the program and contains a **Frequently Asked Questions** section that will get you through any difficulties. Not that you can expect many difficulties with Voila. My impression is that the program is hugely rewarding and entertaining as well as an effective tool for capturing and working with images.

Global Delight

I suggest you have a look at the Global Delights website and download a 30-day demo of Voila. Find out what the fuss is about. Macworld likes Voila. Apple likes Voila. I like it and you will, too. No matter what else you do with your Mac, the ability to record what is on your Desktop is as basic to the Mac OS as copy / paste. This program makes the most out of screen capture and it will definitely make a difference to how you harvest images off your Desktop and what you can do with them.

Article by **Michael Shaw**

iamaKey
USB Flash Drive from LaCie

Data storage has had quite an evolution. The floppy disk was an early data storage medium that you could read and write to. You could erase it and add data many times over. The floppy disk is a thing of the past, never more to make a return. Gone are the days of putting 180 KB on a 5 1/4 inch floppy. Gone are the day of inserting a 3 1/2 inch hard disk to save 1.44 MB of info. You would be hard pressed to find a drive that would take either of these dinosaurs (although I have an imation SuperDisk drive that does take the hard disk). Nowadays with the large amount of information that needs to be transferred, one needs the flash drive, a mini portable hard drive.

I can remember being very disappointed when I bought my first iMac (the bondi blue one) and there was no floppy drive. How would I transfer data from my computer at home to the one at work. I could of course burn a CD but that would be expensive and too static. I bought the imation SuperDisk to help me out. Apple of course was way ahead of the technology game. Somehow they foresaw the death of the floppy; that its limited capacity would soon be outdated. Those first generation iMacs did have the USB port and it was not long before the first flash drives (called thumb drives) were out on the market. Nowadays, who would want to save data on a floppy when you can easily save more on the flash drive and then stick it in your pocket or attach it to a key chain.

The flash drive comes in many sizes from 128 Mb to 16 GB and growing. The price varies greatly depending on the storage space, the company that produces it and when it reaches the market. These drives keep coming down in price all the time and their capacity keeps growing. At one time, I was pleased with the 1 GB flash drive that I bought for $100 (that was three years ago). I recently purchased an 8 GB drive for $20. But that is the way of technology. The idea is not to wait for the price to come down but rather buy what you need at the time. If you wait too long, it could be obsolete. I am still happy with my first drive. It served its purpose. But nowadays I use the larger drive. The insides of a flash drive have already been written about in a past DoubleClick article by Michael (see DC Nov 2008 page 10). You can refer to that if you need to know more on that topic.

The biggest problem with flash drives is that they are made of plastic and feel flimsy. Drop them a few times and it loosens as if it could split apart. I have found that the protective end breaks easily if dropped from a very low height. They feel cheap. One cure for this is to not drop it. Easier said then done. Another is to get the iamaKey which is made of metal. It is much more rugged and will stand up those unfortunate accidents. As you can see from the picture, it actually does look just like a key. This key-shaped design is both functional and memorable and the protection it offers makes it extremely reliable. It is thinner than most thumb drives. The gold SIP connector is both water- and scratch-resistant. I have not actually put it in water to prove this but I trust that it will be so if the need arises. The connector end also looks a bit different from most USB devices as it is not the usual full rectangular shape. However, there is no need to fear, it can only be inserted one way. Because of its storage size, you will need Mac OS 10.3.5 or higher to use it. The one thing that I miss when using the iamaKey is the lack of an LED light to show that the drive is being accessed. I completely understand that imbedding an LED would remove the intended visual resemblance to a key and so it has been left out. It is just something I will have to get used to.

There is always a question of formatting new external drives, which would include the flash drives. Disk utility, which comes with all Mac OS systems, allows you six formats: the most common being the Mac OS Extended (Journaled) and the MS-DOS File System. Any drive that I have bought always comes with the Windows (MS-DOS) format on it. This means that we simply have to stick the drive into the USB port and the drive shows up on our desktop ready to be used. Data can now be read by both Mac and IBM computers. There is a draw back to this set up and that is in the drive's speed, both reading and writing. If you knew that your external drive was to be used by Macs, then you should erase the drive and put the Mac OS Extended format on it. I don't recommend this for the flash drives. I did erase the iamaKey and put the Mac OS on it. It loaded up on the screen noticeably faster but it was not readable by my IBM computer. It asked if I wanted to reformat the drive when I plugged it in. Since I want to be able to transfer data easily from one system to another, I reinstalled the MS-DOS format. Slower it is, but more versatile. I leave it to you to decide how to handle the formatting.

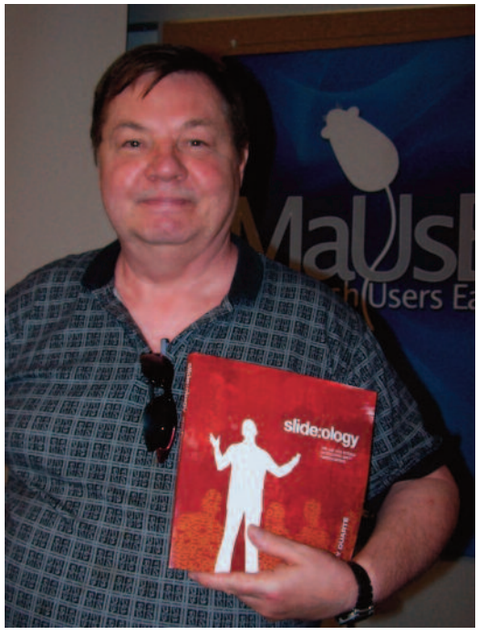
In the end, I now have a 4 GB thumb drive formatted to work on both systems. It is metallic and so I have no fear that dropping it will break the case. It can easily fit on my key ring and not look out of place. It is less bulky and gives me the faith that my data is well protected from most accidents. LaCie actually has two other metal thumb drives, with different shapes and storage space. You can do an online search to see where they are available. I have found the price ranges from $30-$40 CAN for the iamaKey depending on the store and the shipping and handling fees. As always, the price will change with time as new technology takes over. Act now if you like what you see.

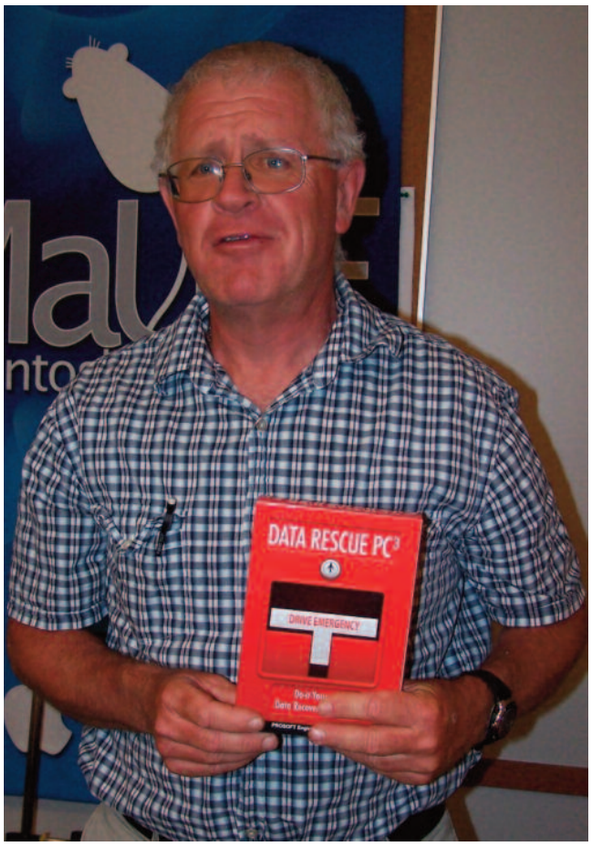
Submitted by Marcel Dufresne

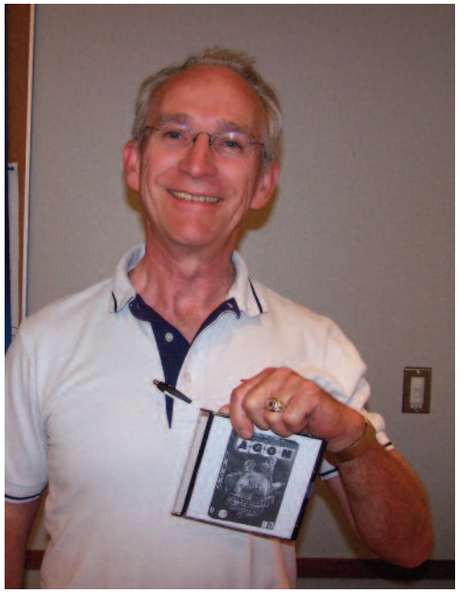
June Meeting Report

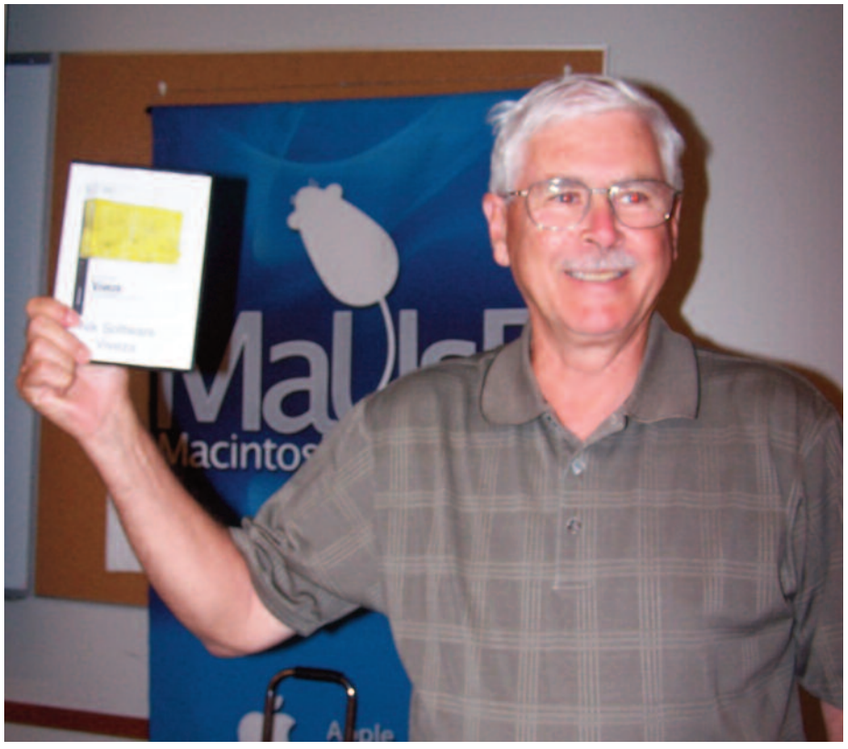
The hot weather arrived just in time for the June 24th Meeting. The Library room was very comfortable but it was very warm & humid outside. Aaron returned after being AWOL for the past two meetings and made up for lost time. Stan gave the Treasurers Report and ran the loyalty draw for the $100.00 gift certificate and 8-gig flash drive at the end of the Meeting. I did a brief show & tell about Smart Folders, and Chris showed us KickYouTube. All of the rest of the Meeting was Aaron's shout. He acted as Master of Ceremonies, And did the Ask The Experts segment, **and** gave us a splendid presentation on Twitter, **and** another presentation on Using a Document Scanner to achieve a paperless office, **and** he told us about the new iPhones, Snow Leopard, and the latest news from Apple. We got two new members and I think they both won something in the MaUsE raffle. There were several really nice raffle prizes, including several books, a vintage Apple PowerBook, copies of Bokeh and Snap Art 2 from Alien Skin, Data Rescue PC3 from Prosoft, Nik Software's Viveza, Global Delight Technologies' Voila, Mariner Software's Paperless, AstoundSound Expander and other programs and games. SecureMac donated 30 one-month demo copies of MacScan that went very fast.

Before and during the meeting there was a lot of activity at the back of the hall with several computers, software, cables, RAM upgrades, keyboards, mice, connectors, digital cameras, iPod accessories, and other computer accessories available for the annual MaUsE Swap Meet. Some stuff was free (a lot of it in fact) and the rest was at very attractive terms. As usual, the evening ended all too soon. See you all in September !









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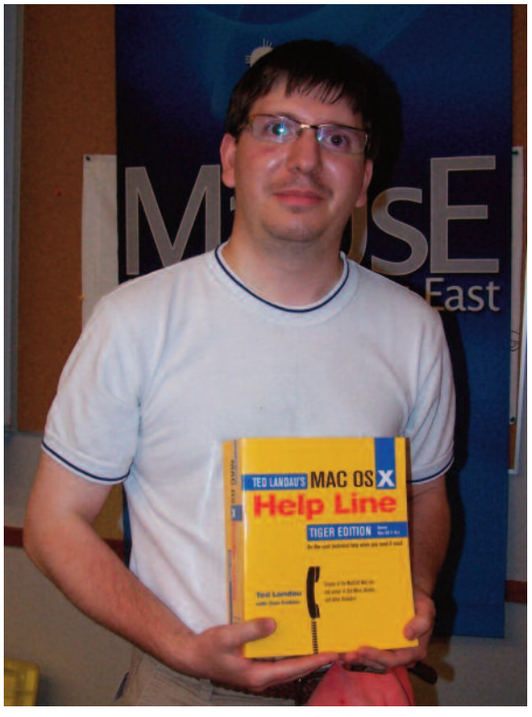


Prosoft for Windows Data Rescue PC3:

Prosoft has been a big supporter of the MaUsE for many years and many of their excellent Macintosh programs (like Drive Genius) have been featured in recent issues of the MaUsE DoubleClick, at our MaUsE Meetings, and in many of our MaUsE Raffles. Although we know Prosoft Engineering best as makers of fine Macintosh utilities, Prosoft also makes an excellent product line for computers infested with the dreaded Microsoft operating system known as Windows.

Although we are primarily a Macintosh Users Group there are some poor fools among us who either use the Windows OS on their Macs secretly or who are forced to use Windows-based computers at work. For those unfortunates in the MaUsE Club Prosoft has sent us a copy of their brilliant new Windows data recovery program called Data Rescue PC3.

• **Data Rescue PC3** is the best solution for recovering files from a crashed or virus-corrupted hard drive. Other utilities can cause more damage to your hard drive and files by trying "fix" the problem, instead of focusing on recovering your files. Do not use a disk repair utility until you've safely recovered your important files and stored them in a safe location. Data Rescue PC3 should be your first option to recover your important data, before you try any risky "repair" utility. Simply put, Data Rescue PC3 is the best data recovery solution.

Data Rescue PC3 is revolutionary in both ease-of-use and power. You can use Data Rescue PC3 in two ways:

• **As an application:** If you need to recover an external drive or a secondary drive, you can just load Data Rescue PC3 onto your computer and start up the application — Data Rescue PC3 will then scan your drive for your files, allowing you to copy them over to a second drive (not included). This is the only safe way to do recovery, since you will not be recovering files to the drive you're scanning.

• **Using Included Emergency Boot CD:** If your main computer hard drive has crashed, has a virus or you need to recover deleted files, you can use the included emergency boot CD. This CD will boot up your computer and then allow you to scan your internal boot drive. Once the scan is done, you can chose which files you want to copy over to your secondary drive (not included) — Using Data Rescue PC3 in this manner allows you to scan your drive without loading the software onto that drive. That's important since the simple act of loading an application may not be possible due to a drive crash or virus and would potentially write-over the deleted files you're trying to recover — To use the Emergency Boot CD, simply insert the CD and reboot your computer. Data Rescue PC3 will automatically access your drive and then guide you through the file recovery process with simple step-by-step directions. You then simply select the files you wish to recover and Data Rescue PC3 will copy those files over to your external USB or FireWire hard drive, secondary internal hard drive, or a network drive (not included). Because Data Rescue PC3 comes on a bootable CD, it works in more cases than traditional Windows-based recovery tools which require your computer to be running Windows in order to install and run the application.

Why do I need Data Rescue PC3?

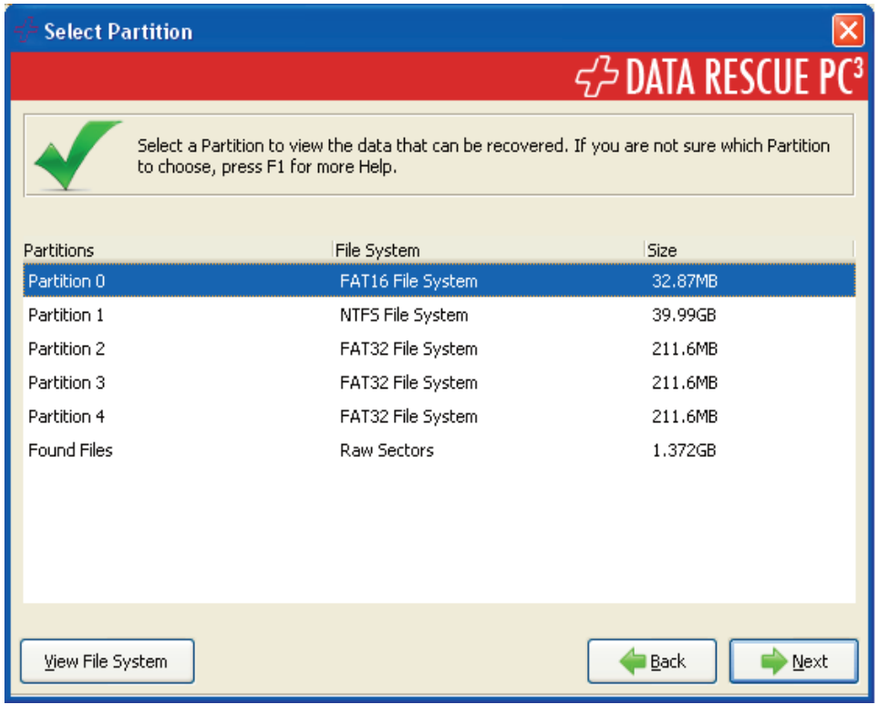
• If you own a Microsoft Windows-infested computer
• If your hard drive won't mount.
• If your hard drive is corrupt due to viruses, errors or operating system failure and you can't access files from it.
• If you need to recover deleted files.

Do-it Yourself Data Recovery Software

• Award-winning technology, works when other software fails.
• Recovers all types of files from your hard drive.
• Works if the drive fails to mount or only partially operates.
• Recovers deleted, lost and damaged files.
• Recovers digital pictures from your camera media even after it has been erased or reformatted.
• Recovers your whole drive or just the files you need.
• Recovers pictures, movies and music from PC drives and any type of digital camera media.

Fast and Easy Results

• Bootable emergency CD - No need to install.
• No need to disassemble your computer.
• Data Rescue PC3 guides you through the recovery process, then saves the files to a second hard drive (not included).
• FREE technical support via phone and email.



Better. Stronger. Faster.
MacSpeech
Dictate
Speech Recognition for Mac OS X
Think it. Speak it. Create it.
Better accuracy. Stronger recognition.
Faster performance.
Introducing MacSpeech Dictate 1.5
Premier speech recognition
for the Macintosh.
MacSpeech Dictate - Speech recognition so good,
about the only thing it can't do is speak for you.

MacSpeech Dictate 1.5
The Upgrades !

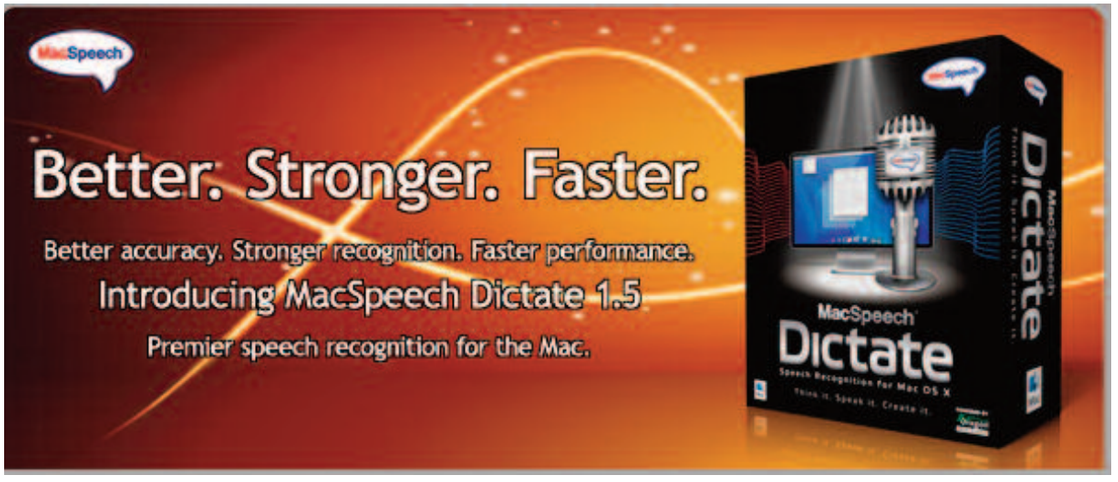
We've had some fun and more than a few laughs at recent MaUsE Meetings when two of our members did presentations of the latest voice-to-text software for Macintosh, the MacSpeech Dictate 1.3 program. That is the software that Michael used to show how well he could recite Bob Dylan lyrics and nonsense rhymes into QuarkXPress 8 (remember - The boy stood on the burning deck eating peppers by the peck...) and the same program that Ian demonstrated at the June 2009 meeting when he showed us how well MacSpeech Dictate handles text in Pages and Mail in decidedly foreign (British) accents. The MacSpeech people have been working hard addressing issues that needed improvement and now the Dictate program had been updated and improved. It is better, stronger, and faster.

MacSpeech Dictate is renowned for its accuracy, and with its newly upgraded engine, it's even more accurate—in fact, up to 20% more accurate. MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 provides an astounding accuracy rate of up to 99% ... near perfection. Of course, you can continue to increase accuracy as you use MacSpeech Dictate. And let's not forget, MacSpeech Dictate NEVER misspells a word. With MacSpeech Dictate, typos are a thing of the past.

In addition to amazing accuracy, MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 also recognizes 13 distinct English dialect variations, providing exceptionally strong recognition. And with the new Vocabulary Editor, MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 lets you train individual words and even add new ones such as proper nouns, giving even more control over how it recognizes your speech. So no matter what English dialect you speak, MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 is there for you.

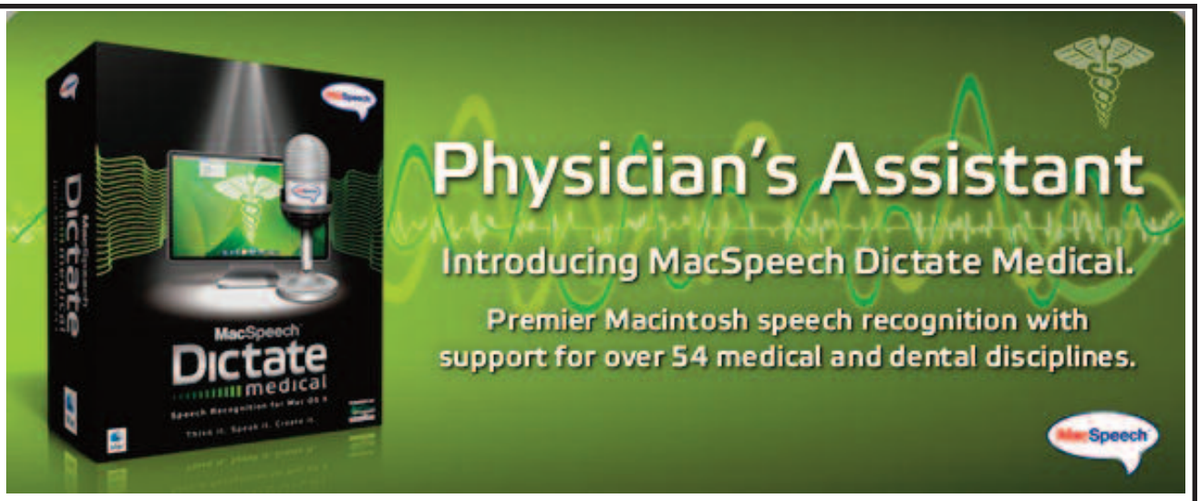
The new MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 does not disappoint. I noticed a definite improvement in accuracy and right out of the box, compared to Dictate 1.3, and after using it for a few weeks the accuracy is still improving. It's dramatically optimized for performance with two of the cornerstone applications for the Macintosh; Microsoft Word and Apple's TextEdit. And more speed in these critical applications means a more natural, intuitive experience and increased productivity for you.

MacSpeech Dictate works with any word processing application and any open document that you can type text into. It even works with online chat site windows like Google chat and Skype chat. Besides dictation, MacSpeech Dictate lets people perform basic navigation of their Macintosh and control it with their voice to launch applications, open new windows, execute menu commands, etc. The more you use it the smarter Dictate gets and the better you sound.



Go to < **http://www.macspeech.com/** > to find out more about this new upgrade to the program that has the potential to radically change the way you interact with your Mac. And have a look at the next page to see where speech recognition software from MacSpeech is expanding into professional fields.

MacSpeech Dictate Medical & MacSpeech Dictate Legal

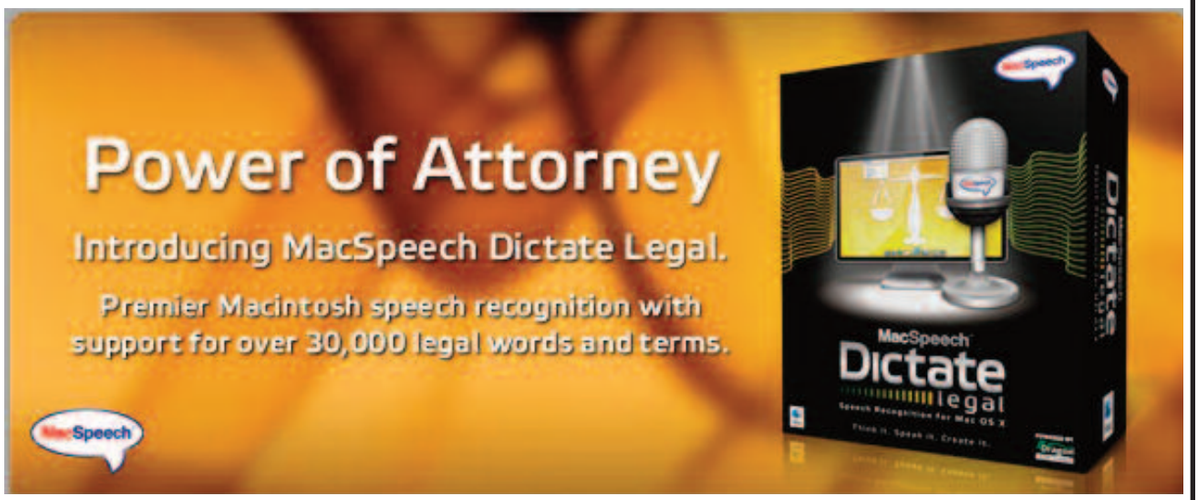


MacSpeech Dictate 1.5 is not the only big news from MacSpeech.

World-class solutions are critical to the day-to-day needs of medical and dental professionals alike. From advancements in medical and dental treatments and procedures, to the latest equipment and tools, you rely on technology advancements in order to provide patients with superior care and quality. At MacSpeech, they know the importance of world-class medical tools that epitomize quality, craftsmanship, innovation, and technological advancement: Introducing **MacSpeech Dictate Medical**, the premier Macintosh speech recognition solution for medical and dental professionals. MacSpeech Dictate Medical supports a wide variety of medical and dental disciplines and specialties; and includes a certified, noise-canceling microphone headset. You may choose a different high-quality microphone, including one of the wireless options.

With MacSpeech Dictate Medical, you just talk and let your Mac do the work. MacSpeech Dictate Medical takes care of the typing in the applications you already use, including word processors, databases, chat applications, email apps, and many more. MacSpeech Dictate Medical is the most advanced, easiest-to-use speech recognition solution available for the Mac.
To find out more, visit: **< http://www.macspeech.com/pages.php?pID=145 >**

And there's yet another new member of the MacSpeech Dictate family: **MacSpeech Dictate Legal**, the premier Macintosh speech recognition solution for legal professionals.



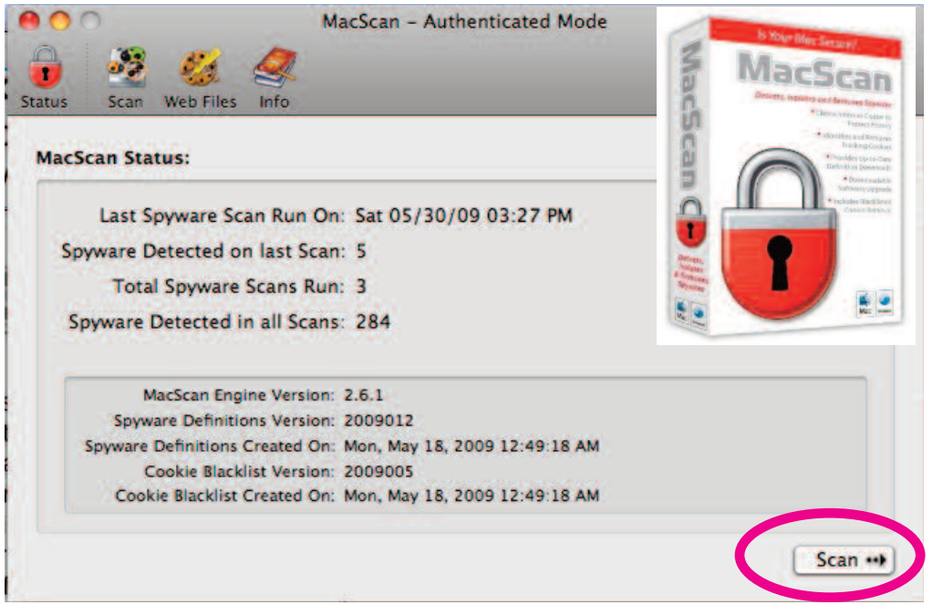
With MacSpeech Dictate Legal, you just talk legalese and let your Mac do the work. MacSpeech Dictate Legal takes care of the typing in the applications you already use, including word processors, databases, chat applications, email apps, and many more. MacSpeech Dictate Legal is the most advanced, easiest-to-use speech recognition solution available for the Mac. Here's a peek at a few other goodies awaiting you:

MacSpeech Dictate Legal will astonish you with its superior accuracy. In fact, MacSpeech Dictate Legal provides an accuracy rate of up to 99% … near perfection. What's more, MacSpeech Dictate Legal NEVER misspells a word, so typos are a thing of the past. Its advanced capabilities require only a few minutes of training as it effortlessly learns your voice, and with continued usage MacSpeech Dictate Legal gets even more accurate. That's power and performance you'll not only appreciate, but rely upon.

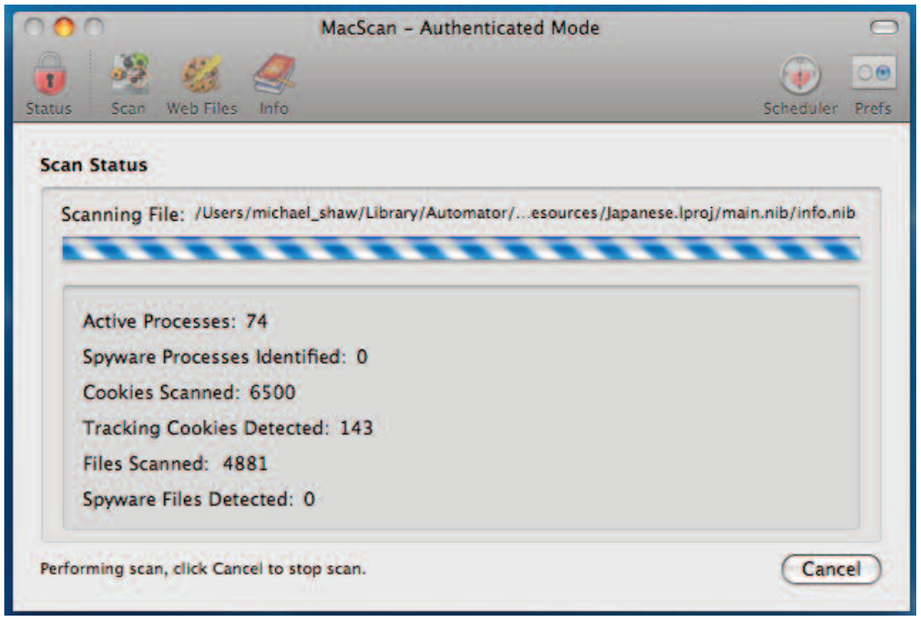
MacSpeech Dictate Legal is wonderfully versatile. It fully understands and supports more than 30,000 legal words and terms, so it's up to your most arduous legal writing tasks and projects. MacSpeech Dictate Legal also recognizes 13 distinct English dialect variations for exceptionally strong recognition, and works with the applications you already use. Word processors, contact management solutions, billing and project time tracking apps, spreadsheets, page layout solutions, email apps, chat programs, graphics applications, Apple's iWork & iLife, and so many others, MacSpeech Dictate Legal works with them all. It even works effortlessly with most text documents created by other applications.

MacScan: The World's First Anti-spyware Security Software for the Macintosh

As Macintosh users, we tend to be a bit smug about how virus-free our Mac computers are when compared to Windows-infested systems. Smug is good but blind to the possibilities is bad. There is more out there than just virus infections that we should be aware of. As the Macintosh OS gains wider acceptance the likelihood of malicious attacks on Mac computers will increase. Already there are several different nasty program types designed to maliciously compromise our beloved Macintoshes. SecureMac has developed a way to fight them. Using advanced detection methods SecureMac's software can detect, isolate and remove any programs which could allow our privacy to be violated. Since early 2002, SecureMac has been developing its proprietary anti-spyware application, **MacScan**. MacScan seeks out and targets suspicious software like trojan horses, keystroke loggers, and specific cookies that have the ability to trigger unwelcome events. Trojan horses are programs that allow a remote user to connect to your computer over the Internet, network or telephone line, effectively taking control over your computer, including the files stored on it. Keystroke loggers are programs that are used to record everything that is typed on the keyboard, and log them to a file. Some keystroke loggers will send the logs over the Internet to a specified address programmed into the application. Keystroke loggers are not limited to what text they record,so if you're typing a letter, or typing your passwords or your credit card number it is all logged.


MacScan – Authenticated Mode
Status
Scan
Web Files
Info
MacScan Status:
Last Spyware Scan Run On: Sat 05/30/09 03:27 PM
Spyware Detected on last Scan: 5
Total Spyware Scans Run: 3
Spyware Detected in all Scans: 284
MacScan Engine Version: 2.6.1
Spyware Definitions Version: 2009012
Spyware Definitions Created On: Mon, May 18, 2009 12:49:18 AM
Cookie Blacklist Version: 2009005
Cookie Blacklist Created On: Mon, May 18, 2009 12:49:18 AM
Scan

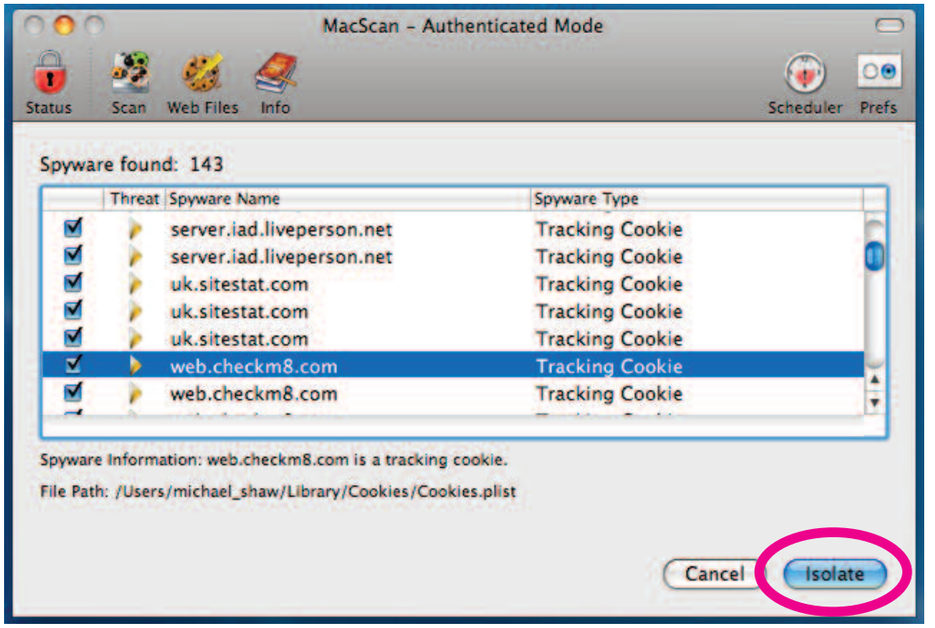
If there is anything on your Mac that even looks like it might possibly be a trojan horse or a keylogger MacScan will detect it and give you a chance to isolate and remove it. All of your browser cookies are scanned to see if they are suspect. Mac users can now remove over 8,000 known cookies for adware and malware with a single click and without losing any of their saved cookies. The Cookie Blacklist definitions, like the Spyware definitions, come in easy to download updates. MacScan also audits and protects your system from remote administrative programs that may have inadvertently been left on or installed.

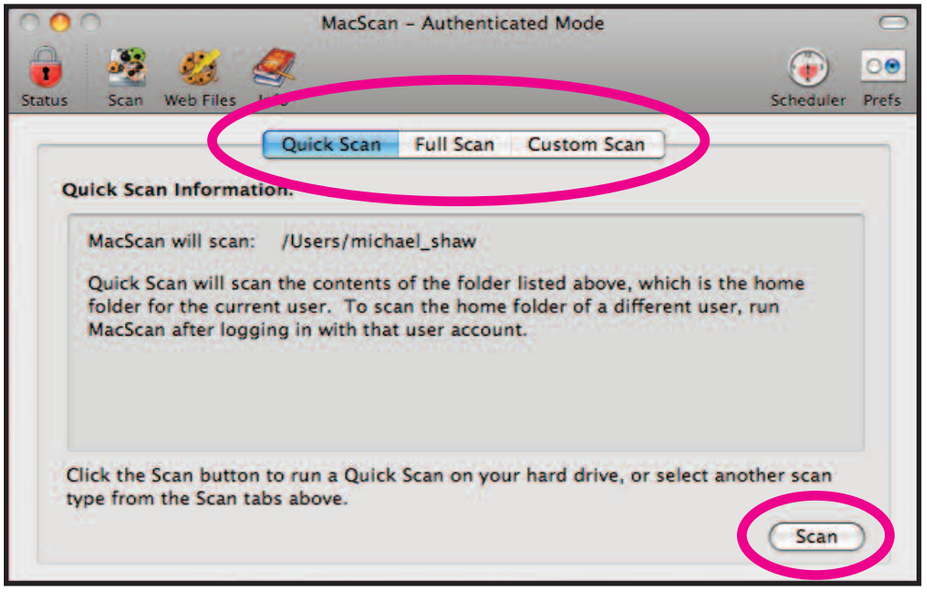


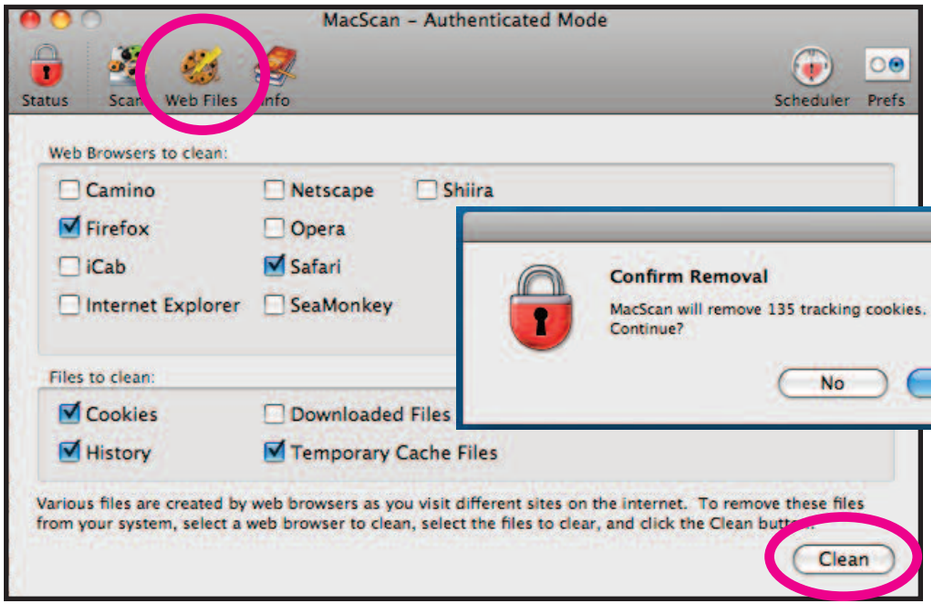
January 2006 saw the release of MacSan for OS X at MacWorld San Francisco. In 2007, the MacScan team released MacScan 2 with key features such as frequent definition updates and the ability to scan Macintosh computer for the cookies on their Cookie Blacklist. Using the program is as easy as setting the Scheduler preferences to scan for spyware at a certain time each week and then leaving MacScan to do its business. (The program can also be run manually by clicking the Scan button in the application window).

By running MacScan you can protect your privacy by checking for known programs which could be running without your knowledge. SecureMac is always adding more support; if users find an application that is currently not detected or is not being detected properly, the information can be sent to SecureMac to improve MacScan.

When you launch MacScan you can choose which type of scan you wish to perform: **Full Scan, Quick Scan, or Custom Scan**. The Quick Scan simply checks your home directory for known spyware applications, but the quick scan will not scan the whole hard disk for spyware. Full Scan scans your whole hard drive for spyware. Custom Scan allows you to scan a folder or drive for spyware. Quick Scan and Full Scan will automatically scan for internet tracking cookies, which can be used to monitor your web surfing habits. When isolating spyware, **tracking cookies** will be immediately removed. When performing a custom scan, you can choose not to scan for tracking cookies. MacScan currently detects and removes tracking cookies for Safari, Internet Explorer, Netscape, Firefox, and Camino. Under Mac OS X, to perform a full volume scan or scan of files which belong to another user restricted by privileges, you must be logged in as one of the administrator accounts and authenticate when asked. MacScan for OS X now has authentication support built in. Simply run the MacScan program, and it will prompt you to authenticate. If you choose to authenticate, MacScan will be run with root privileges, and you will be able to scan any directory on your hard drive. If you choose not to authenticate, MacScan will run in "normal" mode, and you will not be able to scan folders that you do not have privileges to access. Without granting MacScan administrative rights, it will only be able to scan files your account has privileges to access, and this may prevent a successful full audit for spyware. Detection will only identify what is believed to be spyware and will only log what it has found. Possible problem files will be listed as spyware and colour-coded (green, yellow, or red) to indicate the level of threat they might represent. Upon examining the list, the administrator will then be able to select and isolate the items. The program also comes with an extensive list (under the Info tab) that names all of the common threats and tells what type of malware they are.




MacScan - Authenticated Mode
Status
Scan
Web Files
Scheduler
Prefs
Quick Scan
Full Scan
Custom Scan
Quick Scan Information:
MacScan will scan: /Users/michael_shaw
Quick Scan will scan the contents of the folder listed above, which is the home folder for the current user. To scan the home folder of a different user, run MacScan after logging in with that user account.
Click the Scan button to run a Quick Scan on your hard drive, or select another scan type from the Scan tabs above.
Scan



The MacScan program comes with a fully-illustrated clearly-written little 16-page .PDF Users Manual that describes how the MacScan program does what it does. I have this program installed on my own Mac and between MacScan, iAntiVirus and Little Snitch I feel I have got enough preventative medicine to protect me from myself and others!

Check out MacScan at: **< www.macscan.securemac.com >**. For what MacScan does the price (US $30) is very reasonable. Since 1999, SecureMac.com has been at the forefront of Macintosh security. Their website at **< www.securemac.com >** not only features complete Macintosh Anti-Spyware and Antivirus solutions, but also operates as a clearinghouse for news, reviews and discussion of Apple computer security issues. Users from novice to the most advanced will find useful information at SecureMac that is designed to make their computer experience trouble free.

Submitted by Michael Shaw

SecureMac.com

I mentioned **SecureMac.com** in the MacScan article that preceeds this page. **I think that this website is an important resource for Mac users and it has the potential to become even more important in the future.** The site was established because there was a lack of security-related news for the Macintosh being covered elsewhere. This site is devoted to the security of your Macintosh computer and the programs or servers you run on it. SecureMac started over ten years ago, early in 1999. Since then they have served thousands of people, helping them secure their networks and detect hackers. The SecureMac website has become the best source of up-to-date information about possible threats to Mac systems.

SecureMac
How secure is your mac?

SecureMac.com is run by a group of Macintosh security experts around the world. Over the past few years SecureMac.com has published over 300 reviews, advisories, and news articles. On their website you will learn how to secure your Macintosh and detect any hackers that might be present on it.

SecureMac.com is the most reliable source of security related products, with extensive reviews and ratings evaluated by the top Macintosh security experts. Every product listed on SecureMac.com is evaluated to its fullest, from secure programming, concept and design. Every product is given a rating and explained in detail. Each developer or developing group is notified of any security issues or advisories before released to the public to ensure a safe transition for all of their users.

As I said in the MacScan article, we tend to be a bit smug about how virus-free our Mac computers are when compared to Windows-infested systems. This can be a big problem if it blinds us to the other threats that are out there. Its very possible that there are much worse things than just viruses lurking in wait out there, and we have to understand that it may take some effort to start taking precautions now before we learn the hard way just what perils there are. SecureMac.com gives Macintosh users some advance warning.

Security + OS

- AtEase
- DiskLock
- PowerBook Security Control Panel
- Empower Pro
- FileGuard
- FreeGuard
- FoolProof
- Deus Lock Master
- OnGuard
- Keys Off
- LockOut
- MacOS Algorithm
- Modem Security
- Password Key
- PGPuam
- PPF
- Shift Key Suite
- Stealth Signal
- SuperLock Lite
- SuperLock Pro
- Web-Confidential

Macintosh Viruses

- Agax 1.3
- Disinfectant
- Sophos Anti-Virus
- Norton AntiVirus Nav 7 Nav 6 Nav X
- Virex - Oct
- VirusBarrier - Netupdate
- vScan - Discontinued.

McVitie's HobNobs: The Official Biscuit of the MaUsE DoubleClick

You must enable cookies to view this page properly. Or, as the British might say, although it doesn't sound correct, you must enable biscuits.
McVitie's HobNobs, plain and milk chocolate varieties, are available from the Sobey's grocery store on the south side of Hwy. 2 between Oshawa and Whitby. Don't buy any unless you can afford to acquire a delicious addiction. Please note: the chocolate coating is on the BOTTOM of the biscuits, not on the top, so be very careful how you eat them. Britain sends her best.

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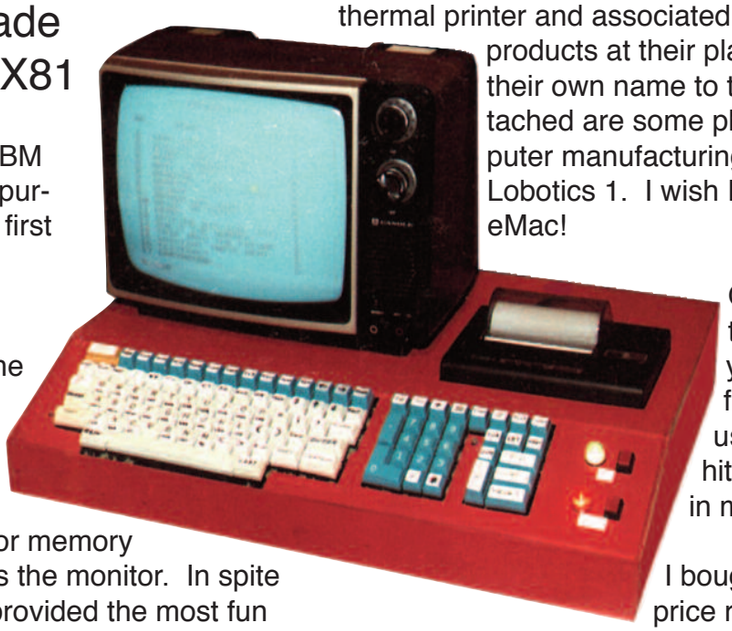
The Best Computer Ever Made
My First Love : The Sinclair ZX81

Although I'd worked at IBM for 25 years and watched, with interest, the introduction of the IBM personal computer in 1981, my first computer purchase was a Sinclair ZX81 - advertised as the first computer for under $100.



This little gem measured only 6.5 X 6.5 X 1.5 inches including the 'membrane' keyboard. The memory was 1K RAM (that's KB, not MB or GB) and the CPU chip was rated at 3.25 MHz (my current Mac is 1.25 GHz). A cassette tape recorder was required for program storage (no floppies, diskettes, hard drives, CDs or memory sticks) and a black-white TV was connected as the monitor. In spite of the primitive nature of the Sinclair ZX81, it provided the most fun I've ever experienced with a computer.

Because of the built-in Basic programming language, users usually learned how to write their own programs. That was the greatest fun! I quickly became an amateur programmer and created dozens of useful applications. There were many computer magazines in the 80s dedicated to the computer hobbyist and some featured how-to-articles regarding homemade attachments and add-ons. That aspect of computing really appealed to me. Tinkering with the hardware, unfortunately, is something that's now discouraged since the modern computer is extremely complex.

I learned how to rewire an old full-size NCR keyboard so that it could be used with the Sinclair. A new fire-engine-red housing was made of plywood and Masonite, complete with a tiny Timex-Sinclair dot-matrix thermal printer and associated switches (Timex manufactured Sinclair products at their plant in Scotland and eventually added their own name to the product in North America). Attached are some photos to reveal the results of my "computer manufacturing" project. I named the machine: Lobotics 1. I wish I could have as much fun today with my eMac!

Only recently, I once again powered-up the Lobotics 1 - it's been unused for 15 years or so. It was quite a surprise to find that the old cassette tapes were still useable and the programs ran without a hitch. That product became a landmark in my ongoing computer love affair.

I bought my Sinclair ZX81 in 1983 after a price reduction to $69.95. I later graduated to an Atari 800XL, an IBM PS/1 (286), a MAC LC630 and finally to my current eMac. Recently, I found another ZX81 at a garage sale which I'll make available to any computer enthusiast who would like to go back in time.

Submitted by George Dunbar (ggdunbar@sympatico.ca)

Gladstone Electronics advertisement (1984)

Sinclair ZX81 personal computer

STILL AVAILABLE
ONLY $49.95

COMPLETE WITH ALL ACCESSORIES

THE BEST SELLING COMPUTER IN HISTORY

OVER 1 MILLION SOLD

The Sinclair ZX81 has just about everything you could ask for in a personal computer. Sinclair BASIC (the ZX81 "language") offers features usually found only on computers costing two or three times as much. It is an ideal computer for learning programming. It is also excellent for your children's education, and for household and business management. The ZX81 hooks up to a standard black and white television; programs are stored on an ordinary cassette recorder.

- Unique 'one-touch' key word entry: the ZX81 eliminates a great deal of tiresome typing. Key words (PRINT, LIST, RUN, etc.) have their own single-key entry.
- Unique syntax-check and report codes identify programming errors immediately.
- Full range of mathematical and scientific functions accurate to eight decimal places.
- Graph-drawing and animated-display facilities.
- Multi-dimensional string and numeric arrays.
- Up to 26 FOR/NEXT loops.
- Randomize function.
- Programmable in machine code.
- Cassette LOAD and SAVE with named programs.
- 1K-byte RAM (expandable).
- Full editing facilities.

The Industry Standard for Scriptwriting

Use code **FILM9** and receive **15% off** *Final Draft* professional scriptwriting software at **www.finaldraft.com/specials**

Final Draft, Inc. is a proud sponsor of MaUsE.

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Final Draft

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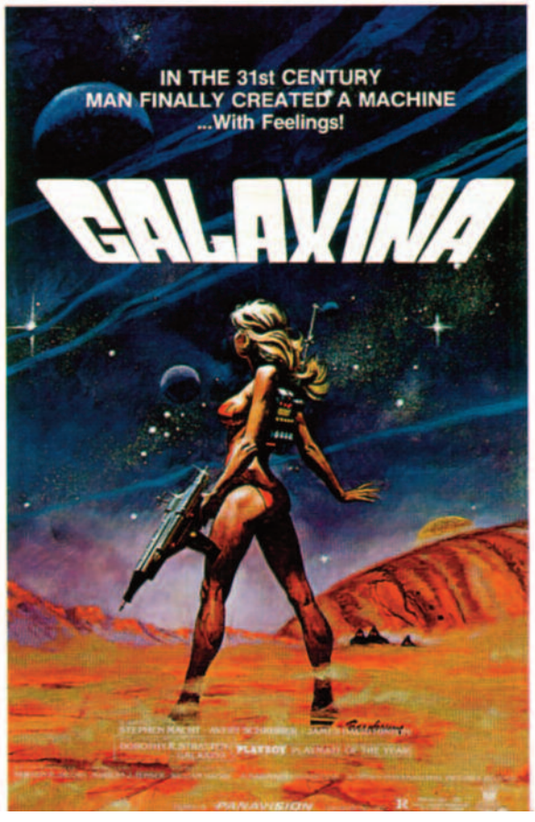
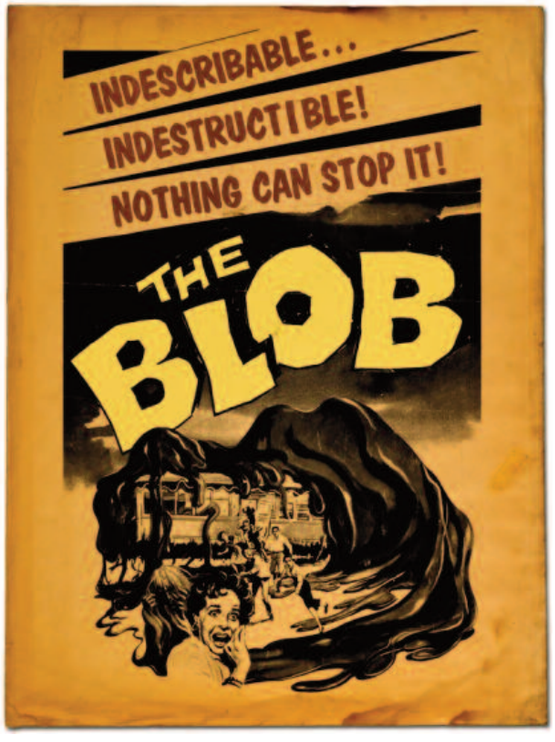




Photographic Composition Part 4*: Cropping

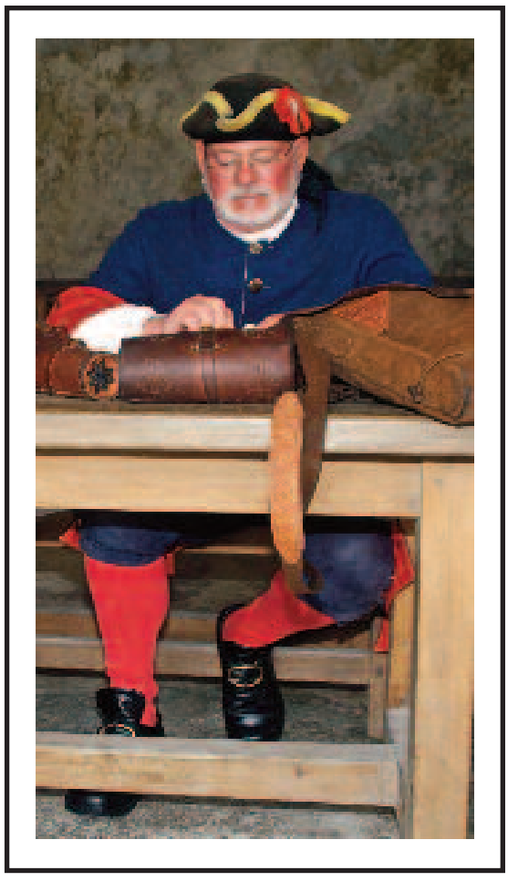
You learned the basic guidelines for good Photographic Composition in my previous articles in the DoubleClick. As a follow up to the statement made in the June article about balance, "The photo of the two soldiers is symmetrically balanced. If you imagine that they are sitting at either end of a pair of scales, you would see that they are balanced. With this type of arrangement, the subjects tend to divide the viewers attention. This is because the shot could be divided into two vertical photo's" I have decided to do a short article on Cropping.

Cropping is the process of looking at a photograph and removing the distracting parts that take your eye away from the main subject. In the example above you see the two soldiers sitting side by side. By cropping that shot down to just the single soldier, you now concentrate more on him and what he is doing. With this particular shot, even the single vertical shot can be cropped down even further. That is because your eye is split between what he is doing above the table with his hands and what he is doing below the table, with his legs and feet. The table is a dividing point for your eyes. This is because his legs are framed by the table.

By cropping out the table and his legs we get to the real reason the photographer took the shot, to emphasize a soldier working on his leather backpack. By careful cropping we still have a good photograph, because it still has the basic guidelines involved in it. We have strong visual unity in the shot due to the triangle formed by the imaginary lines running from the peak of the hat to the elbows. This tends to frame the face, which has a triangle of its own, the eyes and noise. You will also notice that the eyes are looking at what he is doing and not at the photographer. This also helps, as the eyes should be looking where the noise is pointing.

Most cropping today is done using a photo processing program on the computer. In the days before digital, yes there was a time when digital didn't exist and photo cropping was done in a darkroom using an enlarger.

To crop a photo, you select the Cropping tool from the Tool box. Using your mouse, select a starting point and anchor one corner. By dragging your pointer over the area you want to keep you will see dashed lines appear. You drag these till you have sized the cropped window around everything you want in the new photo. The program asks you if this is what you like, and if it is than you can select the cropped area. If not just reject it and restart your crop. Once accepted this becomes your new photo, which you will want to re-name and save.



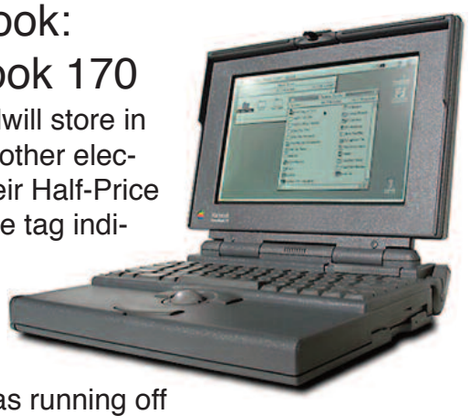
For this reason NEVER, NEVER work on your Original photograph. The first task is to make a duplicate of the original, and do all your adjustments on the duplicate. Making the duplicate saves your original. Your original is the same as the film negative from days gone by. Photographers took great care with their negatives, as they knew that the negative could make them some money, by selling the prints that it made.

*This is the fourth in a series of articles. Parts 1 and 2 of this series appear in previous DoubleClick issues. Part 3 appears earlier in this issue.

Submitted by **Kevin Livesey** <><

MaUsE
Macintosh Users East

The First PowerBook:
The 25 MHz PowerBook 170



I saw one of these over at the Goodwill store in Ajax a few weeks ago amongst the other electronic debris. It happened during their Half-Price Wednesday Sale so the $29.95 price tag indicated that they really only wanted $15.00 for it. That's a far cry from the US $4,600.00 it cost when new. The battery was dead but someone had plugged it in and it was running off the power supply. I played with it for a few minutes and it was neat to see it working so well. As usual, there were lots of personal files on it that should have been erased before it was donated but that's another story. I checked out the used paperbacks on the bookshelf for a quarter of an hour and when I walked past the electronics shelf again the PowerBook 170 was gone. I hope it found a good home.

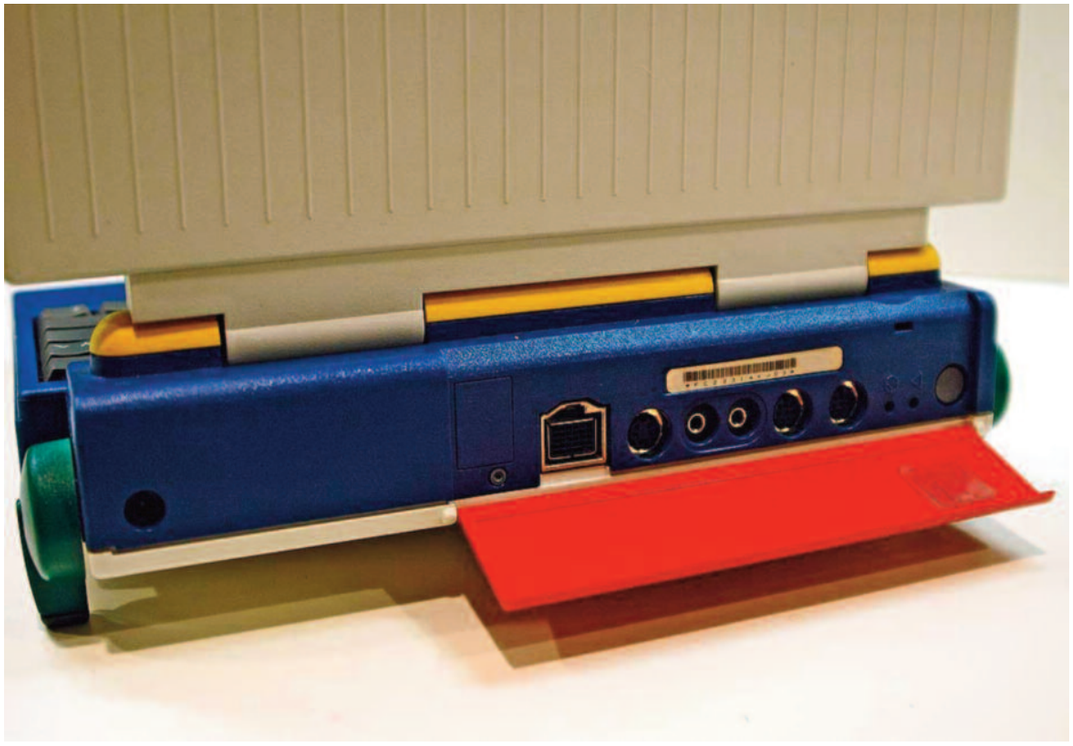
The PowerBook 170 was released by Apple Inc. in October 1991 along with the PowerBook 100 and the PowerBook 140. Identical to the 140, the 170 model was the high end of the original PowerBook line featuring a faster 25 MHz Motorola 68030 processor with Floating Point Unit (FPU) and a more expensive and significantly better quality 10-inch active matrix display. It was produced for one year and was discontinues in October 1992 when it was replaced by the 33 MHz 68030 PowerBook 180. The PowerBook 180 introduced a new power saving feature which allowed the processor to run at a slower 16 MHz rate to extend battery life.

Though the PowerBook 100 is the direct descendant of the Macintosh Portable based on its internal architecture, the 170 is the Portable's direct successor. A no compromise portable version of the desktop Macintosh, the 170 includes virtually all of the features incorporated in the original Portable, as on a comparable desktop of the day, but in a smaller and sleeker case design. Initiated as a more suitable replacement for the Portable, the only features the first generation 170 did not include in its reduced space were an external video port and internal ROM & PDS expansion slots. Indeed, Apple canceled its own external monitor adapter for the Portable shortly after it was announced, instead relying on numerous third party providers for solutions (still applicable to the 170) and FCC regulations of the day prevented any real use of the PDS expansion slot, by restricting any external connections to it. The PowerBook 180 replacement would address external video less than a year later, but expansion slots would not return to Macintosh portables until 3 years later with the PowerBook 500 series, in the form of PCMCIA cards. The 170 also dropped the external floppy disk port (only the Macintosh Classic II still had one) and made no provision for a second internal floppy disk port (a feature also missing from the rest of the desktop line by this time). **Overall, it had roughly the equivalent features and performance of the powerful Macintosh IIci desktop in a laptop.**

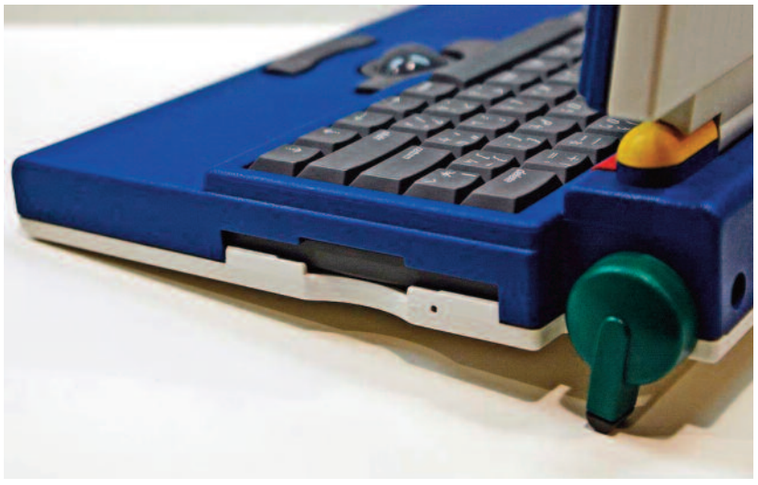
*Though released at the same time as the PowerBook 140 and PowerBook 100, both the 140 and 170 were designed entirely by Apple, while the 100 was being miniaturized by Sony from the full-sized Macintosh Portable. As a result, the 170 represents **the very first PowerBook created by Apple**, with the 100 actually representing the first design improvements, though its internal architecture is the oldest in the series.*

The 170 was introduced with System 7.0.1, specifically to support new power management and other unique hardware features. However, due to the RAM prices in 1991, combined with its already high list price, the 170, like the 100 & 140, only had 2 megabytes (MB) RAM soldered directly onto the logicboard, which critics felt was restrictive for use with System 7. The North American models were grey, like the one pictured above.

Eventually phased out in October 1992, the 170 did briefly re-appear in 1994 in a special edition 'white' version and, later still, in an extremely rare multi-colour guise for the JLPGA (Japan Ladies' Professional Golf Association), as seen here at right.

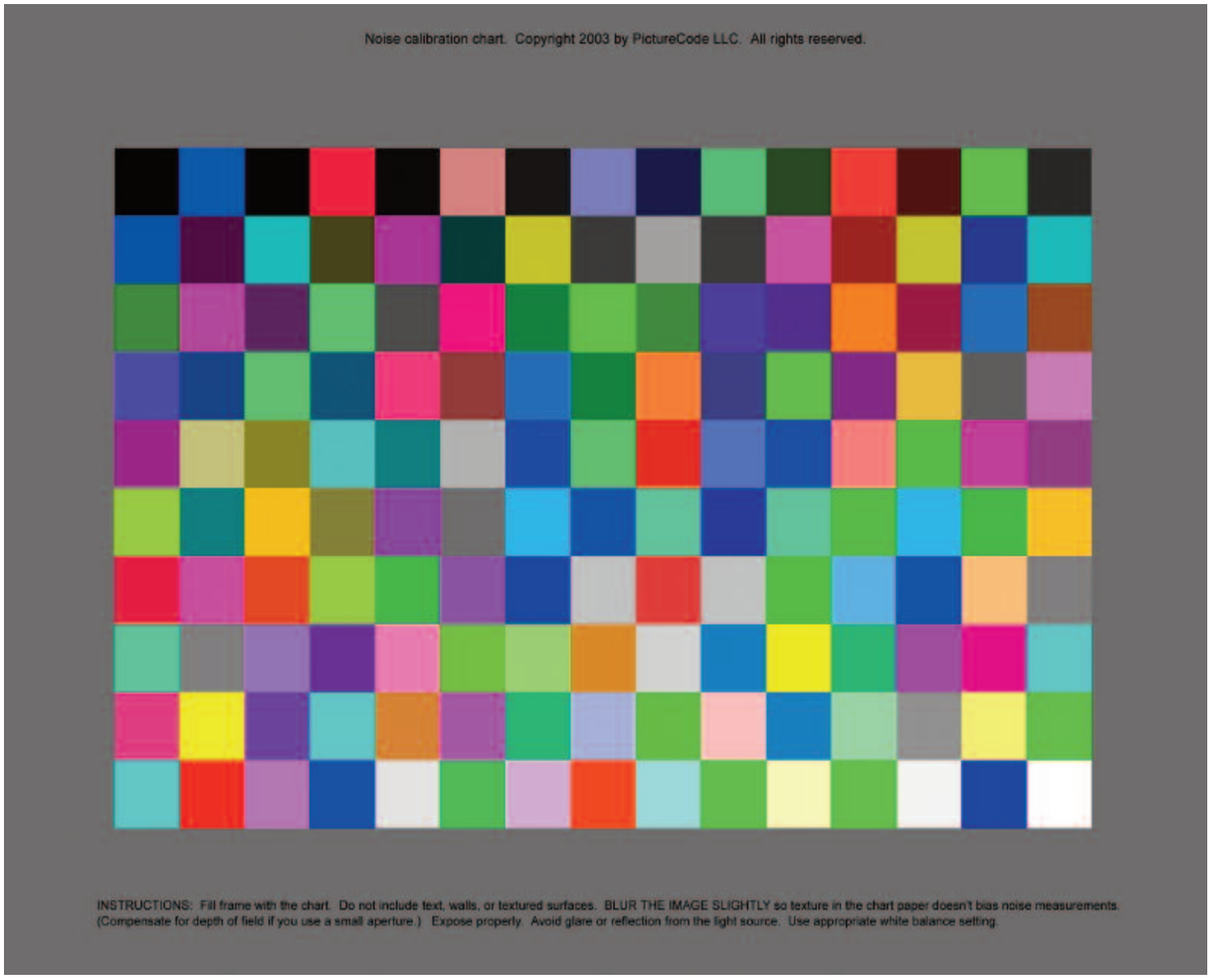


Ethernet was optional but the PowerBook 170 came with 1 ADB port, 2 serial ports (one for printer, one for modem), 1 SCSI port (HDI-30) and audio in and out (8-bit Mono). Maximum RAM was 8 Megs (4 Megs standard) and the PowerBook 170 came with a 40 or 80 Meg SCSI hard drive. Access to the 1.44 Meg floppy drive was on the right side towards the rear and there was no built-in CD.



Since localized versions of System 7 were not yet available worldwide, the Japanese 6.0.7 KanjiTalk version of Apple's System software, was modified to support all three new PowerBooks and released as version J-6.0.7.1. As a result, this version was unofficially adapted for use with the standard 6.0.7 allowing many users to run System 6 on their PowerBooks, rather than upgrading on-board RAM with an expensive proprietary RAM card (a 6 MB card was US $899). The 170 shipped with an additional 2 MB RAM card already installed, so it was less of a problem, however 4 MB was the minimum recommended RAM size for use with System 7 and not practical for use with a RAM Disk, a battery power-saving feature.

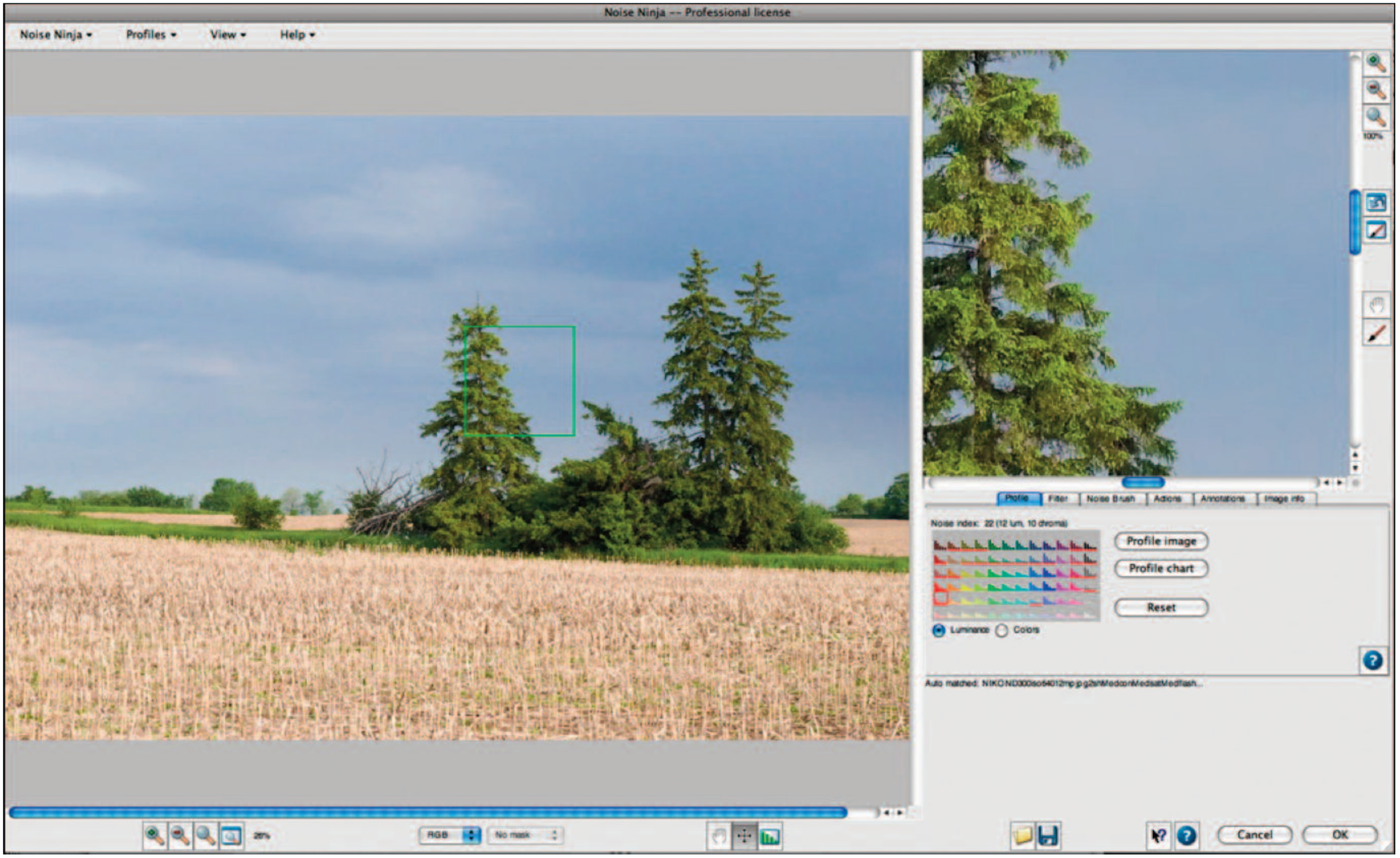
Noise Ninja 2


Noise calibration chart. Copyright 2003 by PictureCode LLC. All rights reserved.
INSTRUCTIONS: Fill frame with the chart. Do not include text, walls, or textured surfaces. BLUR THE IMAGE SLIGHTLY so texture in the chart paper doesn't bias noise measurements.
(Compensate for depth of field if you use a small aperture.) Expose properly. Avoid glare or reflection from the light source. Use appropriate white balance setting.

The digital era has brought with it an increased awareness of noise issues in digital cameras. With the ever-increasing mega-pixel counts in todays digital cameras increased emphasis is being placed on reducing noise artifacting on these digital sensors. While film grain could often be used for creative effect, digital noise results in unwanted colour artifacts and strange looking ugly speckles. Digital noise is defined as electronic static in a digital camera and appears as darker spots (similar to film grain) in a photograph. This static is amplified at higher iso settings and longer exposures and is particularly obvious in flat areas of colour (like the sky). The small digital sensors employed in todays point-and-shoot cameras are particularly vulnerable to noise issues though all cameras are affected to some degree. Digital SLR models employing full-frame sensors such as a Nikon D3 or D700 are best at controlling noise and are usable to higher iso values without noise reduction but unfortunately these models retail for $3000 and up. Adobe Photoshop provides users with rudimentary controls for controlling noise from these cameras and, although helpful, Photoshop does not possess the amount of control necessary to fulfill the task of reducing unwanted noise and holding critical detail in these images. At this point software developers such as PictureCode have stepped in as a viable alternative.

PictureCode was founded in November of 2003 by Dr. Jim Christian, a veteran computer scientist and an avid amateur photographer. PictureCode develops innovative software technology to enable new levels of image quality, utility and productivity in the photographic workflow. Their software, called Noise Ninja, can be used not only for improving low light and high iso shots but also for creating bigger enlargements from lower iso shots. Noise Ninja users report a two stop improvement in noise efficiency. The software can also be used to clean up digitized film based scans (as I will demonstrate later in this review). Noise Ninja is available as a stand alone application or as a plug-in for Adobe Photoshop, Apple Aperture 2 and Adobe Lightroom 2. The cost for the Pro bundle is about $100 Canadian, however the stand-alone versions are available at much lower cost. The Adobe Photoshop plug-in under review today is listed as Noise Ninja 2 Version 2.3.2. The Noise Ninja plug-in is accessed as a convenient drop down under the Photoshop filter menu. I did not encounter any issues loading or running the Noise Ninja software during the review period. Mac system requirements are listed as 10.4 or later and Apple Aperture 2.1. I am using an early version Intel iMac 2 Ghz with 2 Gb of ram and running the latest Leopard 10.5.7 software.

Noise Ninja is based on a powerful and robust mathematical approach to noise reduction using what is termed as "wavelet theory". The wavelet theory is a cutting-edge technology used for transforming images from pixels to a rich spacial-spectral representation that improves the ability to automatically identify and suppress noise at different frequencies, locations and colour channels. Noise varies by frequency, colour and brightness and it is different for every type of camera. For this reason Noise Ninja provides free profile downloads available for dozens of cameras on their website (http://www.picturecode.com/profile_upload.php). If your camera is not represented, a simple profile chart can be downloaded in order to profile your own camera (see image above). The user would print out this profile chart and shoot it with their camera at various iso settings and through the use of a button Noise Ninja will create noise profiles for your particular camera model. I did not use this method of calibration as my specific camera model was found in their database and I was quite happy with the results, however information on the PictureCode website indicates that creating your own custom profile may or may not produce a superior result to the stock profiles.It should also be noted that best results will be achieved when Noise Ninja is applied as early as possible in your workflow. Any pixel adjustments made to the image will make it more difficult for Noise Ninja to work effectively.

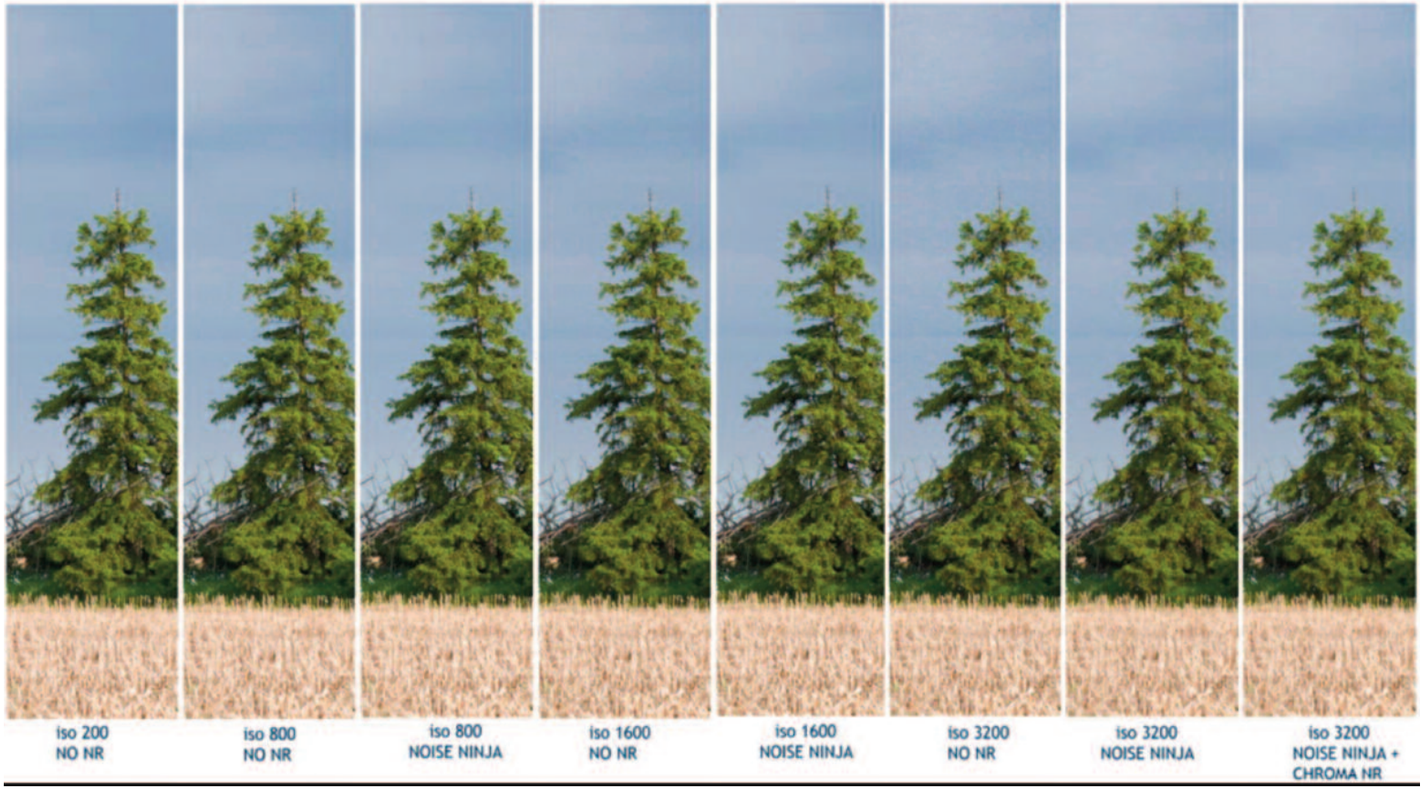


Noise Ninja provides the user with a simple and clean layout (see image above) and a logical menu-driven approach to correcting noise in the images. The three most used boxes are profile, filter and noise brush which are arranged neatly together. Image information is also found here as is an action button for batch processing multiple images.

Images are corrected easily using a series of slider controls and the user can visualize the changes in real time on the smaller preview window. As mentioned previously there are three methods that can be utilized to effectively reduce noise. The first method allows the program to auto-profile the image itself and provide a result viewable on the smaller preview window. Or, alternatively, you can load supplied iso profiles for your particular camera, or you may wish to create your own profile using your actual camera and load these to the program. I found the auto-profile to provide a good result overall however the supplied profiles did provide a superior result. Noise reduction can be accomplished using the luminance or colour channels independently. All results can be modified and improved by utilizing the many controls found in the filter box. The noise brush can be utilized by simply painting parts of the image to undo or redo the effects of noise removal in the luminance channel, chroma channels or all colour channels providing selective control over noise removal in localized areas of the image. In use I found the preview window too small for my liking. I would much prefer to view the changes on a larger scale even if the program would slow somewhat. I particularly found the preview window difficult for using the noise brush and changed my workflow over to Photoshop using a duplicate layer with layer masks for controlling brush effects.

I found the results using Noise Ninja to be extremely satisfying. The results definitely exceeded my expectations for the program. I have been apprehensive to push my Nikon D300 past 800 iso but with Noise Ninja I can easily exceed those limits. I found great care needs to be taken to find the best balance between noise reduction and detail retention. Areas with fine detail may have to be brushed back using the noise brush at times. This is why the noise brush is provided. The three images at right show the fine results Noise Ninja is capable of providing on a digitized scan from a Kodachrome transparency. I found the films grain structure and noise made worse from enlarging the scan cleaned up nicely using Noise Ninja. The image at the bottom of this page shows the results from my Nikon D300 at iso settings ranging from 200 iso to 3200 iso with and without Noise Ninja correction. The Noise Ninja noise brush was used to protect some areas and no post sharpening has been added to these samples. There is a very slight detail loss as the iso scale rises however this is also due to the in camera noise reduction taking effect. Better results may be obtained by turning the cameras high iso noise reduction off and letting Noise Ninja do the work more effectively. The negative effects such as halos and speckles are minimal and would be difficult to see on a printed image. Noise Ninja will definitely become an integral part of my workflow in the future. **Please bear in mind it may be difficult to see these results properly on the low-res .pdf you are looking at.** For more information and individual price packages regarding Noise Ninja visit PictureCode at **www.picturecode.com**.

Submitted by Paul Danabie, Prepress Colour Specialist
Email : < pdanabie@mac.com >
Website: http://web.me.com/pdanabie/Site/Welcome.html



Please note:
As part of my review I have placed high resolution images on my mobile me gallery for you DoubleClick readers to download if you like! This gallery is found at :
http://gallery.me.com/pdanabie#100179

I will leave the images available for three months or so.

Paul Danabie

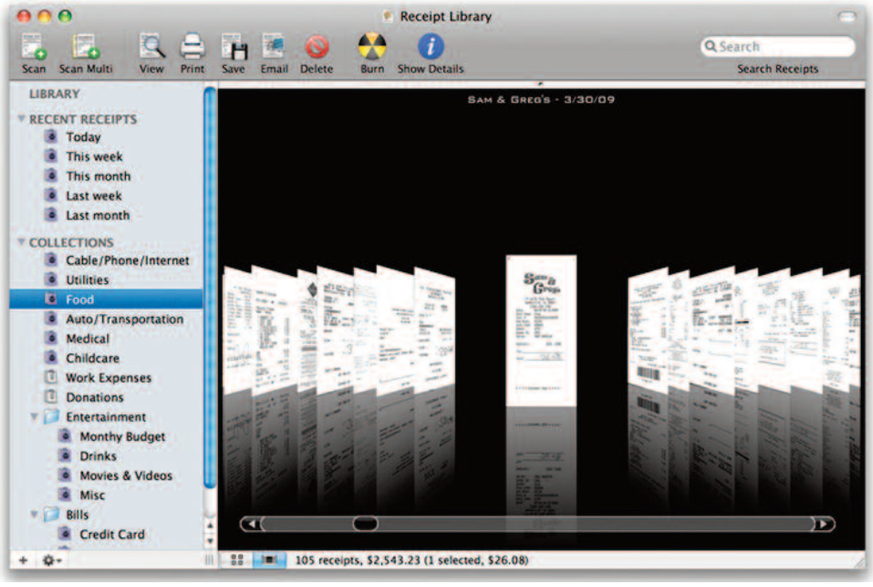
New from Mariner: Paperless

Mariner Paperless can help you organise all of the little important pieces of paper that may be cluttering up your life. If you need to keep track of your expenses or any other paper-bound data and are tired of filing and losing your documents, Mariner Paperless is for you !

Introducing Mariner Paperless For Mac OS X

We are judged by the company we keep. And we judge others the same way. It is with that thought in mind that I introduce this new product that has just been released by Mariner Software. The company has been around since 1990 but has been expanding its list of Mac titles aggressively since 2002. Mariner now has a stable of nine solid performers and products that simplify life by offering outstanding capability and compatibility at a reasonable price. Mariner Software offers good value for the money. And Mariner has been a supporter of the MaUsE for many years. All of their Macintosh-compatible products have been featured at our MaUsE meetings, in our MaUsE raffles, and here in past issues of the DoubleClick.

Formerly known as ReceiptWallet, the newly-rebranded Mariner Paperless allows you to scan and manage all of your receipts and documents. Simply scan receipts, warranties, deposit slips and other paperwork. The Optical Character Recognition (OCR) in Paperless automatically recognizes and helps categorize documents. When you scan in each receipt or document, you enter a few pieces of information about it and then you can quickly and easily locate your receipts and documents. With Paperless, you can view the receipts right on the screen, print them, email them, or save them as PDFs. In addition to the powerful search tools built into Paperless, you can organize your receipts and documents into collections. These collections can contain whatever you want and even better than that is the ability to create ”smart collections” that automatically create collections based on whatever criteria you like. Nearly any scanner will work with Paperless through the Image Capture method, however for best results Mariner Software recommends using a TWAIN compliant scanner or Fujitsu ScanSnap S1500M, or S300M or a Pentax DS mobile 600. Fujitsu and Pentax have the best drivers on the market at this time. Your results may vary using any other scanner. However, all Mariner Software products can be downloaded and tried out at no cost for 15 or 30 days before purchasing so if you are unsure whether or not Paperless will meet your expectations, please feel free to download a trial copy to test in your own environment before purchasing.
< http://www.marinersoftware.com/download.php >



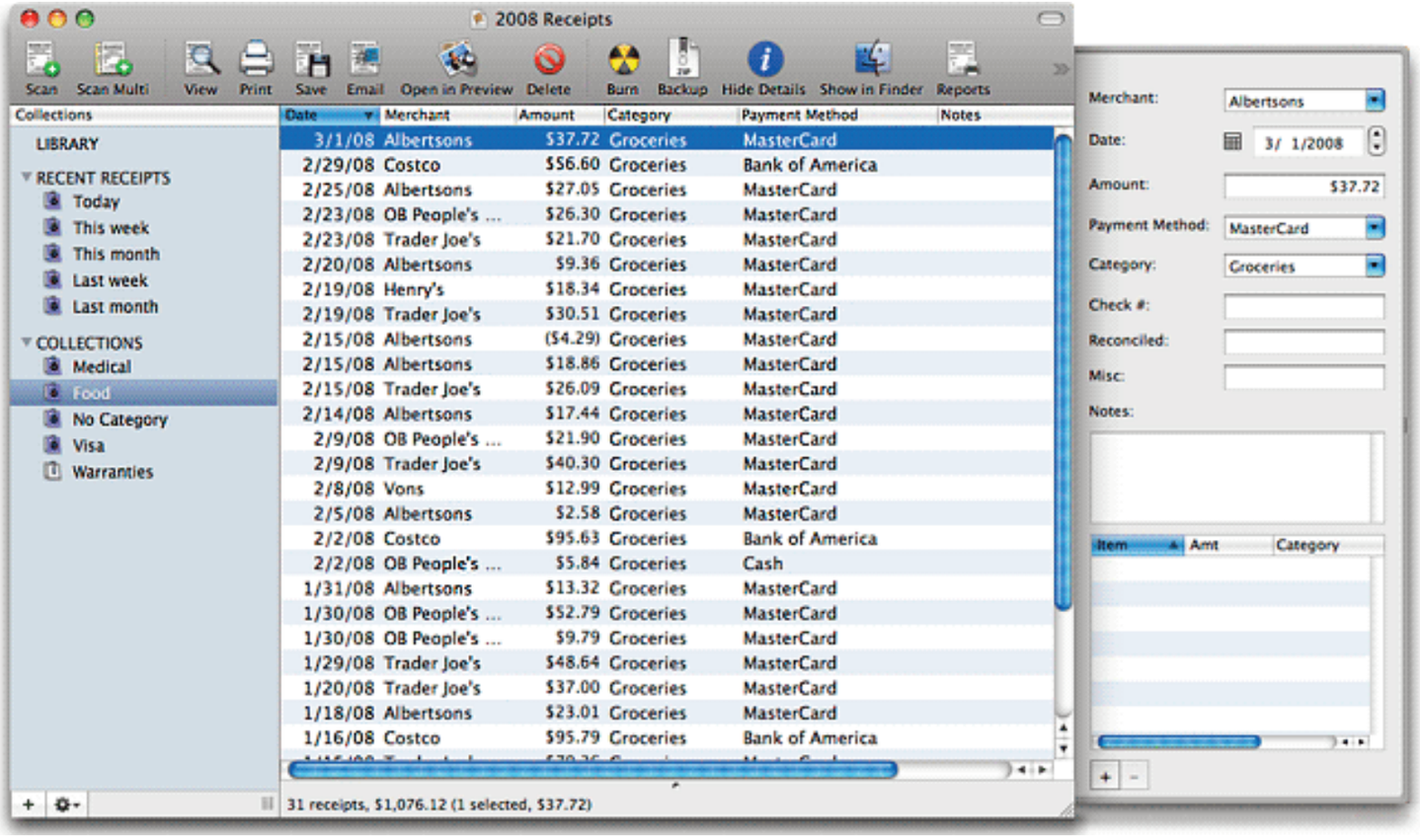
Store owner's manuals and other PDFs
Are you finding that most owner's manuals these days come as PDFs and are either on the manufacturer's website or on a CD? Can you ever locate the information when you need it? Simply add these manuals to a Paperless library and they're accessible with a few quick keystrokes.

Access legal documents
If you're a professional or anyone that has lots of documents about various cases or topics, Paperless can help you organize. Many lawyers are moving from the massive amounts of paper they generate to electronic storage. This is economical and easy to do. Combine Paperless with a fast scanner such as the Fujitsu ScanSnap and paper can virtually be eliminated.

Be ready in case of a disaster
We all hate to think what could happen in a disaster like a flood or fire. Recovering from one can be a trying experience. If you prepare ahead of time and put all your important documents into Paperless and back them up off-site before the disaster, recovery is just a little easier.

System Requirements.
• Mac OS X 10.4.11 or later; Mac OS X 10.5.4 is recommended for full use of all the features.

There is no limit to what you can do with Paperless



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Before the rise of Adobe InDesign and the Adobe “Gang of Four”, QuarkXPress was the premier software solution for most of the people who did desktop publishing on the Macintosh platform. Because of this fact, there are a lot of old no longer in use copies of QuarkXPress around. You might have one. Think your old QuarkXPress 3, 4, or 5 licenses are beyond use, relegated to a dusty cupboard? Think again. Until September 30, 2009, you can upgrade ANY previous version to QuarkXPress 8 for one low price.

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See DISEMBODIED HAND THAT CRAWLS...!
See NIGHT THE WORLD NEARLY ENDED...!
See EARTH ATTACKED BY FLYING SAUCERS!
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Produced by JAMES H. NICHOLSON and ROBERT GURNEY Jr. · Directed by EDWARD L. CAHN · Screenplay by AL MARTIN
A MALIBU PRODUCTION · AN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

RAW PANIC
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